

AMERICAN
COMICS GROUP
AAC

STORIES of STRANGE ADVENTURE

NO 45-AUG.

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
CCO
AUTHORITY

FORBIDDEN WORLDS

10¢

THRILLS OF JUNGLE
MAGIC--STRANGE
SECRETS OF FORBIDDEN
LANDS! THEY'RE ALL IN
"CONGO EPISODE!"



WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM



TONY PASCARELLA

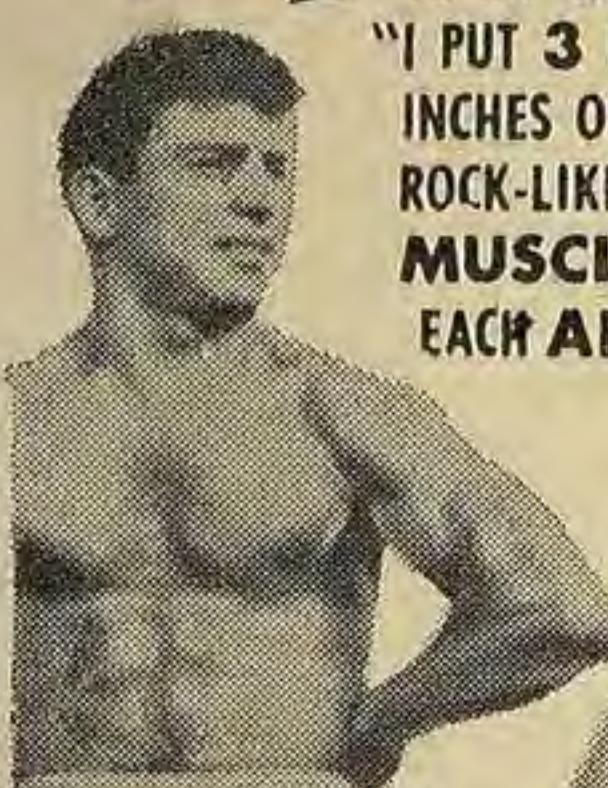
BEFORE

"Here's me—a bag-of-bones weakling before I mailed the coupon."

AFTER

"I ADDED 3 NEW INCHES TO MY CHEST."

"I PUT 3 NEW INCHES OF ROCK-LIKE MUSCLE ON EACH ARM!"



Like Tony YOU can be a GOLD MEDAL WINNER



It's easy with Jowett Training! Mail Coupon To See How!

GET GOING, PAL!

Mail coupon to get

FREE

PICTURE-PACKED HE-MAN BOOKS

Limited offer.

Millions sold at \$1.00. Act before price goes back.

ALL
5
BIG
BOOKS
YOURS!
COUNT
THEM!

I gained
50 lbs. of
muscles!

1
says
John
Sill

HOW TO MOLD A
MIGHTY CHEST
By GEORGE F. JOWETT

I added
7 inches
to my
CHEST
3 inches
to each
ARM,
says
Jobie
Jackson

HOW TO MOLD A
MIGHTY ARM
By GEORGE F. JOWETT

2

HOW TO MOLD A
MIGHTY GRIP
By GEORGE F. JOWETT

3

HOW TO MOLD
MIGHTY LEGS
By GEORGE F. JOWETT

WOW! What an AMAZING HE-MAN TONY IS NOW!

He gained **28** MUSCLE-PACKED POUNDS all over! Won NEW HANDSOME LOOKS ... NEW POPULARITY.

World's Greatest Builder of HE-MEN

Shows YOU How in **10 MINUTES OF FUN A DAY!**

COME ON PAL! Now YOU make me

prove it! Give my easy, quick course just 10 pleasant minutes a day in your own home like Tony did. In a few short weeks your puny, old frame will come alive with smooth, giant HE-MAN MUSCLES and POWER to make you PROUD!

WIN CHEERS Not JEERS

On the beach, in the gym, on the job, in A sports your new rippling, strong-as-ir muscles, new jetline body will win en admiration, bring you SUCCESS. Test and proved Jowett training will bri you new men and women friends, n popularity everywhere you go.

NO! I don't care how skinny or fla by you are. I'll make you OVER the SAME secret method I turn myself from a wreck to the stro est of the strong. I can do for y what I do each year for MANY THO SANDS of weaklings like Tony w

**DEVELOP YOUR
520 MIGHTY MUSCI**

Gain or Lose Pounds, INCHES FAS

YES! You'll ADD INCHES of shapely MUSCLES to y skinny ARMS and CHEST ... see your fat melt awa a HARD, SOLID body in fighting trim. Your BACK SHOULDERS broadened. From head to heels you'll in LOOKS, SIZE, STAMINA, SEX APPEAL ... you'll "top kick" in SPORTS, BUSINESS, in anything you tac

GET STARTED NOW! MAIL COUPON

Stop WISHING! You can do it. Mail NOW the ALL-F coupon below as I did. Get ALL 5 BOOKS FREE lions sold for \$1.00) while limited offer lasts. L HOW you can WIN \$100 and a big 15" silver cup as a Jowett trained CHAMPION!

YOU CAN WIN

**A BIG 15" TALL
SILVER CHAMPION CUP
and \$100 IN CASH
as I just did!**

MAIL THIS LAST CHANCE—ALL FREE COUPON TODA
And get 1. FIVE HE-MAN BOOKS; 2. MUSCLE METER; 3. PHOTO BO

JOWETT INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL TRAINING
220 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 1, N.Y.

Dept. AM-

Tell Me Ho
WIN \$100.

"Jowett Courses greatest in
World for Building
All-Around
HE-MEN"
R. F. Kelley
Physical
Director

Dear George: Please send me FREE a Mu Meter and all 5 books in one volum "How to Become a Mighty HE-MAN." extra promptness, also send Jowett's PH Book of Strong Men. Enclosed find 10c POSTAGE AND HANDLING. (No C.O. Please tell me how I can start your train ing and get the results that Tony did.

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

MAIL NOW! SAVES YOU YEARS and DOLLARS!

The GIRL on KENNISTON CRAG!

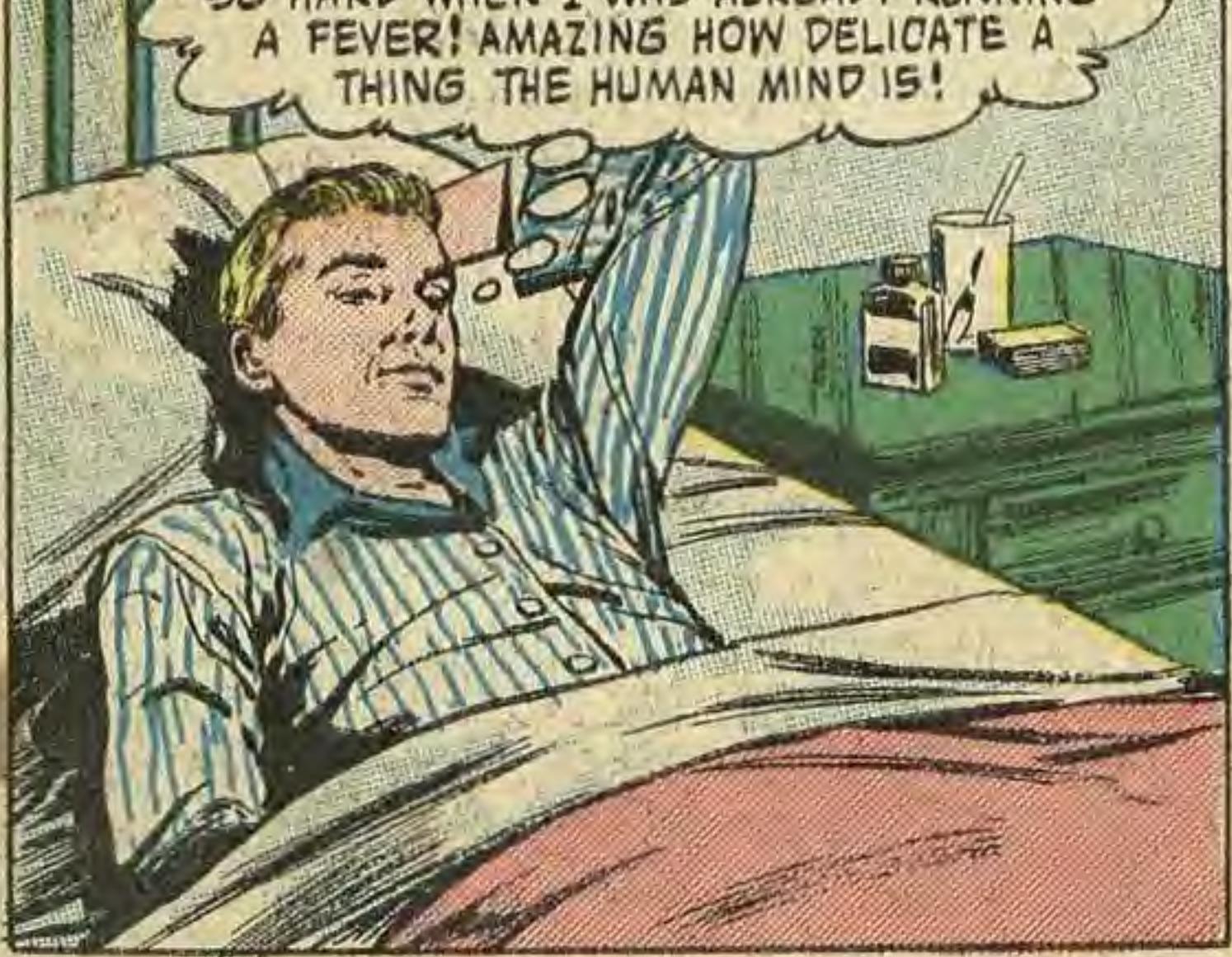


"THE BLAZING LIGHTS OF DICEY MANOR LAY DEAD AHEAD... ALREADY I COULD HEAR THE STRAINS OF AN 18TH CENTURY ORCHESTRA PLAYING A WALTZ! BUT THERE WAS TO BE NO GAIETY FOR ME! I WAS IN QUEST OF A TERRIBLE SECRET... AND WAS PREPARED TO RISK ALL TO FIND OUT THE TRUTH!"

John R.

BUT LET ME GO BACK TO THE BEGINNING... TO A LONDON HOSPITAL WHERE I WAS RECOVERING FROM A SERIOUS NERVOUS BREAKDOWN...

"THIS IS WHAT I GET FOR WORKING SO HARD WHEN I WAS ALREADY RUNNING A FEVER! AMAZING HOW DELICATE A THING THE HUMAN MIND IS!"



MY PHYSICIAN WAS THE NOTED NEUROLOGIST, SIR ALFRED BLAKE...

"WELL, HOW DOES OUR BRILLIANT ASTRONOMER FEEL TODAY?"

"NOT SO BRILLIANT... BUT AT LEAST I'M NOT CONFUSED ANY MORE!"



THE VERY THINGS WHICH HAD WON ME A REPUTATION AS A DARING ASTRONOMICAL THEORIST HAD BROUGHT ME LOW... THE BOLD SWEEP OF MY IMAGINATION...

NO MORE WORK ON THAT BOOK OF YOURS, CHARLES... NOT FOR A LONG TIME!

OH, DON'T WORRY... I'M HEARTILY SICK OF IT! BUT I DID HAVE A POINT ABOUT THE RELATIVITY OF TIME... ITS ILLUSORY QUALITY...

BROODING OVER THOSE COMPLEX PROBLEMS, I'D SUDDENLY FOUND MYSELF THINKING THE FUTURE WAS THE PRESENT, THE PAST THE FUTURE... IT WAS ALL TERRIBLY MUDDLED...

IT'S EASY TO LAUGH ABOUT IT NOW... BUT AT THE TIME, IT WAS VERY REAL!

HALLUCINATORY MANIAS USUALLY ARE! BUT THAT'S PAST... I GUARANTEE IT!

A FEW WEEKS LATER, WHEN I WAS ALMOST READY TO BE DISCHARGED...

YOU'LL NEED A LONG VACATION... WITH NO WORK! YOUR MIND'S FAR TOO IMPORTANT TO SCIENCE TO JEOPARDIZE IT FURTHER! I'VE MADE EXTENSIVE PLANS FOR YOU...

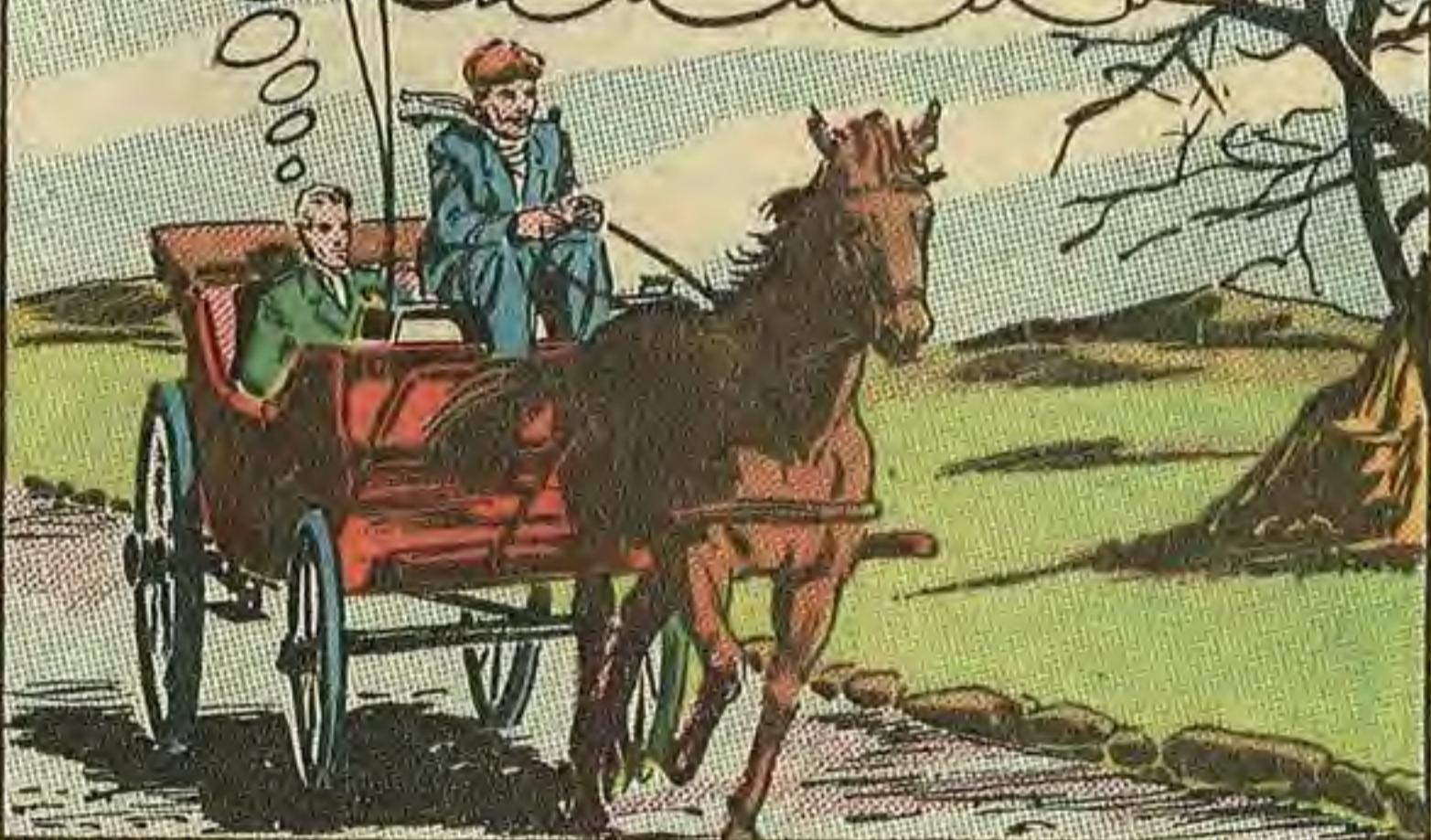
HE'D RENTED A HOUSE FOR ME IN A LONELY PART OF SCOTLAND! THERE'D BE NO BOOKS, RADIO OR TELEPHONE...

NOTHING BUT REST! I'LL DROP BY TO SEE YOU WHEN I CAN!

YOU'RE A HARD MAN, SIR ALFRED... CAN'T I EVEN READ THE NEWSPAPERS?

THE TRIP ITSELF WAS RESTFUL... THE ROLLING COUNTRYSIDE... THE THINNING POPULATION! THE HOUSE WHICH WAS TO BE MINE WAS OVER 30 MILES FROM THE TINY RAILWAY STATION...

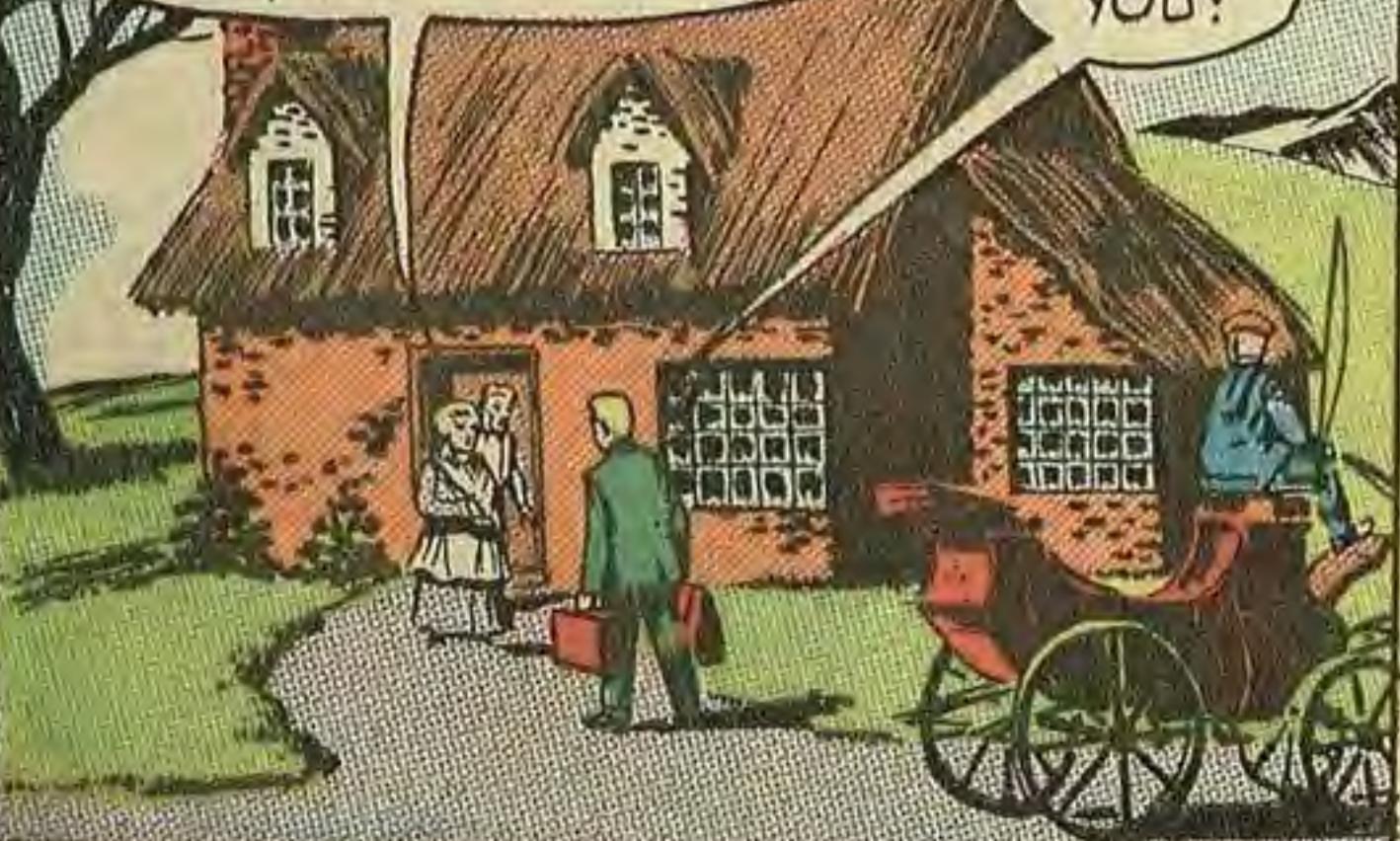
THE WAY THE NATIVES AROUND HERE DRESS AND ACT... WHY, IT'S LIKE GOING BACK 100 YEARS! OH-OH, BETTER CLOSE OFF THAT LINE OF THOUGHT... IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!



IT WAS AN OLD STONE COTTAGE ON A LONELY HEIGHT, CONSTANTLY SWEEP BY STRONG WINDS...

WELCOME, MR. BANNISTER! EVERYTHING IS IN READINESS!

THANK YOU!



THERE WASN'T ANOTHER HOUSE WITHIN MILES! I SETTLED DOWN FOR A LONG CONVALESCENCE, WITH NO COMPANY APART FROM THE HOUSEKEEPER AND THE AGING HANDYMAN...

YOUR AFTERNOON TEA, MR. BANNISTER!

JUST TWO WEEKS HAVE GONE BY... AND THE BOREDOM IS KILLING ME!



IN A WILD UNTAMED WAY THE SURROUNDINGS WERE QUITE BEAUTIFUL... BUT IT SOON BECAME MONOTONOUS! I TOOK LONG WALKS ON THE LONELY MOORS... NEVER ENCOUNTERING A SOUL...

IF I DON'T FIND SOME DIVERSION SOON, I REALLY WILL GO MAD! SIR ALFRED MUST HAVE BEEN BALMY TO SUGGEST THIS!

ONE COLD DAY I WENT AS FAR AS KENNISTON CRAG, THE FORBIDDING OUTCROPPING OF ROCK WHICH DOMINATED THE SINISTER MOORS SURROUNDING IT! I WAS LOST IN THOUGHT WHEN SUDDENLY...

YOU'RE A STRANGER IN THESE PARTS, AREN'T YOU?

WHAT THE...!



HER VOICE ALMOST SCARED ME OUT OF MY WITS! FOR A MOMENT BEFORE MY EYES HAD SWEEPED THE TERRAIN... AND THERE HAD BEEN NO ONE IN SIGHT!

I... I'M AFRAID YOU STARTLED ME... I DIDN'T SEE YOU COMING!

YOU ARE A STRANGER, AREN'T YOU? I KNOW MOST OF THE PEOPLE AROUND HERE!



THERE WAS A DELICIOUS SCENT OF HEATHER ABOUT THIS GIRL, THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CREATURE I'D EVER SEEN!

MY NAME'S CHARLES BANNISTER... AND I AM NEW AROUND HERE!

I'M ANNE DICEY! I LIVE OVER AT DICEY MANOR A FEW MILES YONDER! KENNISTON CRAG IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE HAUNTS!



HER EYES FASCINATED ME! THEY SEEMED TO STRIKE INTO MY HEART, AND I FELT MYSELF FALLING UNDER A STRANGE SPELL...

I'M A RATHER LONELY MAN, MISS DICEY... I HOPE I MAY SEE MORE OF YOU!

AS I'VE SAID, I COME HERE OFTEN! YOU MAY CALL ME ANNE!



THE THINNESS OF HER GARB AMAZED ME... AND SOMEHOW SHE WASN'T SHIVERING AT ALL! I TURNED MY EYES FROM HER FOR A MOMENT, TO COLLECT MY THOUGHTS...

DICEY MANOR? EXACTLY WHICH WAY IS THAT, ANNE?



THERE WAS NO REPLY TO MY QUESTION! SURPRISED, I TURNED... AND SHE WAS GONE!

GREAT SCOTT, WHERE DID SHE GO? THERE'S NOBODY IN SIGHT!



HAD MY DELICATE MIND PLAYED SOME TERRIFYING TRICK ON ME? I HURRIED HOME TO TELL THE HOUSEKEEPER OF MY ENCOUNTER...

ANNE DICEY?...OF DICEY MANOR? SORRY, SIR, THERE'S NO SUCH PLACE AROUND HERE!

ARE YOU SURE?

THE EXPERIENCE TERRIFIED ME! FOR A SOLID WEEK I WENT TO THE CRAG EVERY DAY...HOPING TO MEET HER AGAIN! I THOUGHT SHE REALLY HAD BEEN A HALLUCINATION WHEN AT LAST...

YOU'RE...HERE! YOU DON'T KNOW HOW HAPPY THIS MAKES ME!

I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, CHARLES...I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT YOU!

AGAIN HER EYES SEEMED TO PEER INTO MY VERY SOUL! I'D THOUGHT OF NOTHING ELSE BUT HER SINCE THAT FIRST MOMENT...

I WANT TO KNOW ABOUT YOU...EVERYTHING!
WHO ARE YOU?

PLEASE, NO QUESTIONS!
ISN'T IT ENOUGH I'M HERE?

I COULDN'T RESIST HER MYSTERIOUS ALLURE...SHE WAS LIKE A FEATHER IN MY ARMS...

FORGIVE ME,
ANNE...I CAN'T
HELP MYSELF...

BUT I WANTED
YOU TO KISS ME...
DEAREST...

WHEN I LEFT THAT DAY I HADN'T LEARNED A SINGLE FACT ABOUT HER! ALL I KNEW WAS THAT I LOVED HER...HOPELESSLY AND COMPLETELY...

WELL, WELL! YOU'RE CERTAINLY IN EXCELLENT SPIRITS TONIGHT, MR. BANNISTER!

I SUDDENLY LIKE IT HERE! I'VE DISCOVERED ALL SORTS OF CHARM'S!

AUTUMN TURNED TO WINTER, AND ANNE AND I MET DAILY AT THE CRAG, NO MATTER WHAT THE WEATHER...BUT SHE WOULD MEET ME NOWHERE ELSE!

ARE YOU DAFT, MR. BANNISTER?
THIS IS NO WEATHER FOR A WALK ON THE MOORS!

YOU DON'T
KNOW HOW MUCH
GOOD IT DOES
ME!

I'D GIVEN UP TRYING TO EXPLAIN HER STRANGE COMINGS AND GOINGS...ALL THAT MATTERED WAS HER PRESENCE...

YOU KNOW I LOVE YOU, ANNE!
I WANT TO MARRY YOU...
HAVE YOU WITH ME
ALWAYS!

IT'S NOT TIME TO
SPEAK OF THAT YET!
HAVE PATIENCE, MY
DARLING!

I LINGERED AT THE CRAG FOR A FEW MINUTES AFTER SHE LEFT, TRYING TO UNDERSTAND HER STRANGE BEHAVIOR! IT WAS ONLY BY ACCIDENT THAT I MADE THE TERRIBLE DISCOVERY...

N-NO...IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!
ONLY MY FOOTPRINTS IN THE SNOW
...NOT HERS! BUT...BUT...SHE WAS
HERE...AND SHE'S REAL! SHE'S
GOT TO BE REAL!

THE THOUGHT THAT SHE WAS ONLY AN ILLUSION, A GHASTLY JEST OF MY FRAGILE BRAIN, MADDENED ME! I HAD TO MAKE A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION NOW, NO MATTER WHAT I LEARNED! THERE WAS A LITTLE VILLAGE SOME DOZEN MILES AWAY...

NO...THERE'S NO DICEY FAMILY IN THESE PARTS, SIR!

I...
I SEE!



NOBODY COULD HELP ME...THE NAME OF DICEY WAS UNKNOWN! FRANTIC, I VISITED THE VILLAGE MINISTER...

I'D LIKE TO CONSULT THE PARISH REGISTERS...I'M TRYING TO TRACK DOWN A FAMILY!

HELP YOURSELF, MR. BANNISTER! YOU'RE LIKELY TO FIND THE OLD TOMES RATHER DUSTY!



IT WASN'T MY SANITY I CARED ABOUT, ONLY LOSING HER! FOR HOURS I POURED OVER THE OLD LEDGERS, UNTIL...

HERE IT IS...
DICEY! OH,
NO...NO!



THE RECORD WAS CLEAR...THE FAMILY LINE OF THE DICEYS HAD DIED OUT ALMOST 150 YEARS BEFORE WHEN DICEY MANOR HAD BURNED TO THE GROUND DURING A GREAT BALL! BESIDE MYSELF, I PHONED SIR ALFRED, WHO HURRIED UP IMMEDIATELY...

IT'S NOT MY IMAGINATION!
SHE'S REAL ENOUGH, BUT IN THE PAST! SOMEHOW THERE'S A FLAW IN THE TIME FLOW AROUND KENNISTON CRAG...A FLAW WHICH HAS ALLOWED ME TO PENETRATE INTO THE PAST!



HE THOUGHT MY THEORY PURE NONSENSE, BUT TO HUMOR ME WE WENT TO WHERE DICEY MANOR ONCE STOOD...

YOU SEE? HERE ARE THE CHARRED REMAINS OF THE FIRE!

THERE'S NOTHING UNUSUAL ABOUT THAT! TO PROVE HOW WRONG YOU ARE, I'LL GO TO THE CRAG WITH YOU...AND WE'LL SEE IF SHE APPEARS!



WE WENT DAY AFTER DAY, BUT SHE NEVER CAME! BUT THAT MEANT NOTHING TO ME...

IT'S POSSIBLE, SOMEHOW, THAT THE TIME FLAW MAY ONLY WORK FOR ME! IT MAY NOT RESPOND TO YOUR PRESENCE!

CHARLES, I'M AFRAID YOU'RE HAVING A RELAPSE! YOU'LL HAVE TO GO TO BED IMMEDIATELY!

I DARED NOT FACE THE TRUTH... I DIDN'T WANT TO! BUT THAT NIGHT, LONG AFTER MIDNIGHT...

GREAT SCOTT... IT'S HER! SHE'S CALLING TO ME!



IRRESISTIBLY, HER VOICE DREW ME ALL THE WAY ACROSS THE SNOW-LADEN MOORS, TO KENNISTON CRAG ITSELF...

ANNE! ANNE!
I'M COMING!
HURRY,
CHARLES!
THEY'RE
WAITING FOR
US AT THE
MANOR!

I GASPED AT HER RADIANT LOVELINESS,
MY HEART TOO FULL TO SPEAK...

WE'RE HAVING A GREAT BALL
TONIGHT... AND I WANT YOU
AS MY ESCORT!



WORDLESSLY, SHE TOOK ME BY THE HAND, LED THE WAY, AND I WAS POWERLESS TO RESIST...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT YOUR
CLOTHES, MY LOVE... IT'S
ALL ARRANGED!

NOW I KNOW WHY
SHE DOESN'T LEAVE FOOT-
PRINTS! THE SNOW IS IN THE
PRESENT, AND SHE'S IN
THE PAST... SO THERE'S
NO IMPRESS!



THE LIFTING STRAINS WAFTED ACROSS THE DARK MOORS AS WE APPROACHED! I COULDN'T THINK CLEARLY NOW ABOUT ANYTHING...

YOU'LL BE INSIDE IN A MOMENT, CHARLES...
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE SUCH A GOOD TIME!

PERHAPS I SHOULDN'T SEE WHAT'S BEHIND THAT DOOR...
BUT I'VE GOT TO!

FOR A MOMENT, THE DAZZLING LIGHTS BLINDED ME, AND THEN...

M-MY CLOTHES!
WHAT'S HAPPENED?

OH, CHARLES, I WISH YOU WOULDN'T ASK SO MANY QUESTIONS!



THERE IT WAS--AN 18TH CENTURY BALL ROOM! MY THEORY HAD BEEN
RIGHT...I WAS IN THE PAST...I HAD BEEN SLIPPING THROUGH SOME
INEXPICABLE FLAW IN THE FLOW OF TIME...

COME, COME, MY DARLING
---I'M DYING FOR A
WALTZ!

I DIDN'T TRY TO THINK ANY MORE...I
DIDN'T WANT TO! IT WAS ALL TOO GAY
AND HAPPY, AND I WAS WITH THE GIRL I
LOVED! I LOST ALL TRACK OF TIME AS
SHE WHIRLED IN MY ARMS...

I LOVE YOU,
DARLING!

AND I
LOVE
YOU!



WE DANCED THE DIZZYING REELS, KISSED IN
A CORNER, VOWED UNDYING LOVE, WHILE THE
MUSIC PLAYED ON AND ON! AND THEN,
WITHOUT WARNING---

FIRE!

LISTEN! DID
YOU HEAR
THAT?

DON'T SPOIL
THE FUN,
CHARLES!
HOLD
ME!

WAS IT POSSIBLE? THE ROOM FILLED
WITH SMOKE, BUT STILL THE DANCERS
WHIRLED ON, OBLIVIOUS TO THE DANGER...

I...I CAN HARDLY
BREATHE! ANNE...
WE'VE GOT
TO GET OUT
OF HERE!

STOP
WORRYING,
DARLING...
THIS ALWAYS
HAPPENS! YOU
WON'T EVEN
NOTICE...
AFTER A
WHILE!

IT WAS THEN THAT SOMETHING SEEMED TO
SNAP IN MY MIND! I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS
HAPPENING...ONLY THAT I WAS RUSHING
TOWARDS THE COOL OUTER AIR...WHICH I
MIGHT NEVER REACH...

GOT TO...
GET OUT...

CHARLES!
COME
BACK!



I BURST THROUGH THE DOOR IN DESPERATION PLUNGED
INTO THE SNOWY MOORS, WITH HER VOICE ALWAYS
BEHIND ME, CALLING--

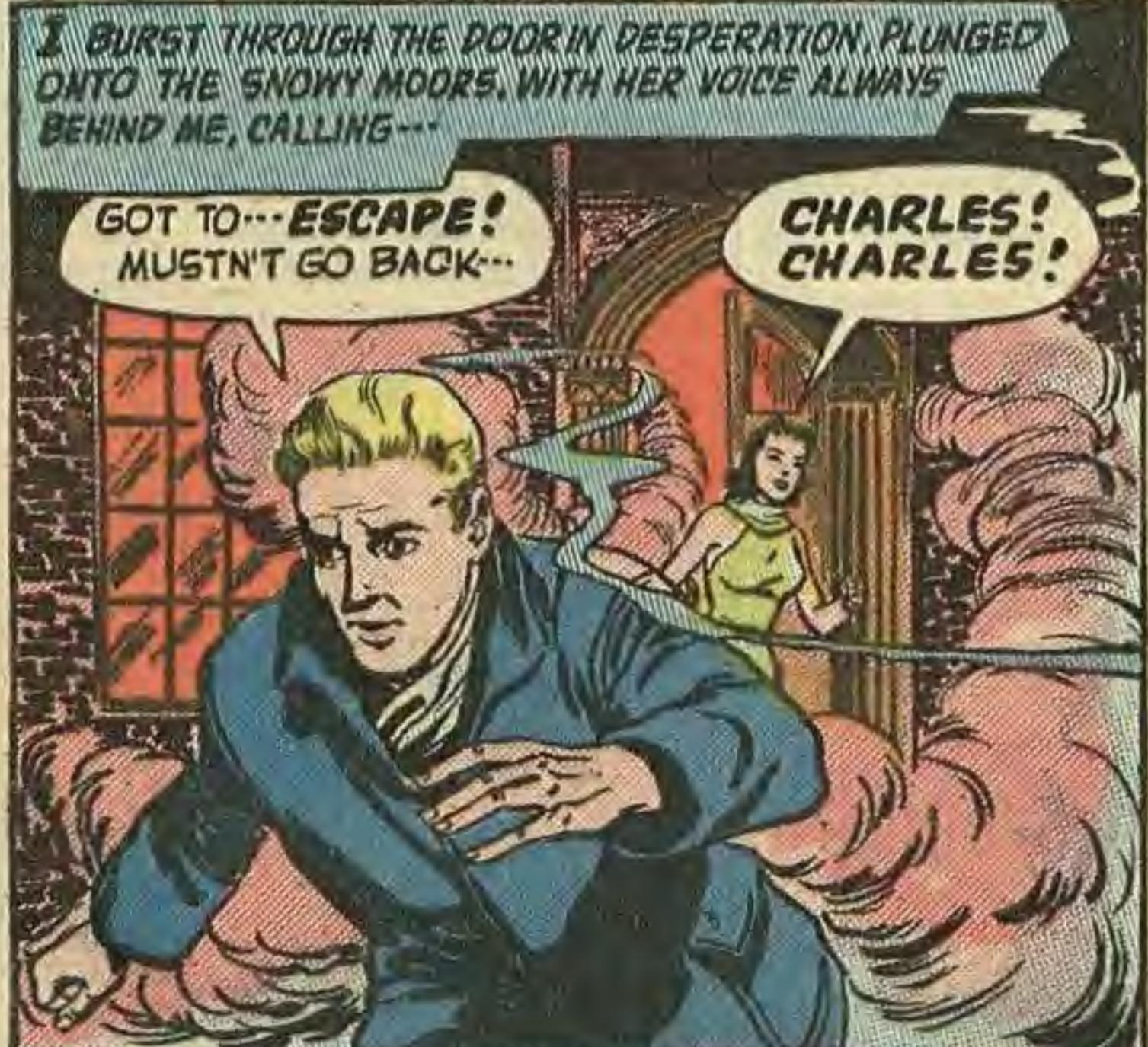
GOT TO... ESCAPE!
MUSTN'T GO BACK...

CHARLES!
CHARLES!

I REMEMBER ONLY LOSING MY WAY, AND COLLAPSING! WHEN
CONSCIOUSNESS RETURNED...

THEY SUMMONED ME AFTER
FINDING YOU ON THE MOORS
---HALF DEAD! HOW DID YOU
BURN YOUR HAND,
CHARLES?

AT...
THE BALL!
I'LL TELL
YOU EVERY-
THING...



HE SHOOK HIS HEAD GRIMLY AS I SPOKE, HIS FACE LINED WITH WORRY...

I'M TAKING YOU AWAY FROM HERE...AS SOON AS YOU'RE WELL ENOUGH! THIS WHOLE ATMOSPHERE IS POISON TO A MAN IN YOUR CONDITION!

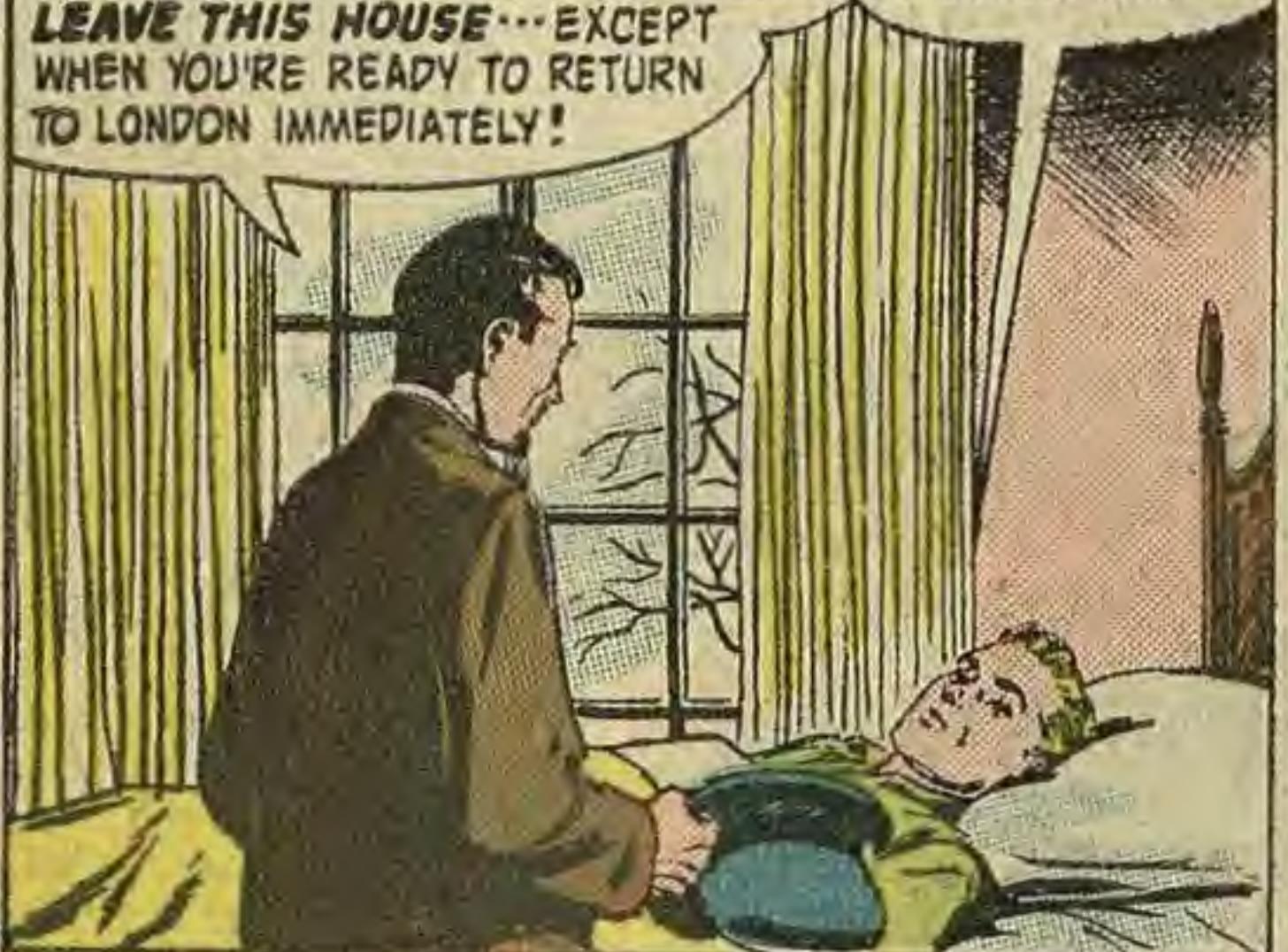
BUT... YOU DON'T BELIEVE A WORD OF WHAT I'VE SAID!



FOR SEVERAL DAYS I WAS BEDRIDDEN, TOO SICK TO MOVE! SIR ALFRED HAD TO RETURN TO HIS DUTIES...

I HATE LEAVING YOU...BUT THERE'S NO CHOICE! JUST ONE THING... DON'T LEAVE THIS HOUSE...EXCEPT WHEN YOU'RE READY TO RETURN TO LONDON IMMEDIATELY!

I UNDERSTAND...



I KNEW THAT LIFE COULD ONLY EXIST FOR ME IN THE PRESENT, BUT I HAD TO SEE HER ONCE MORE...FOR THE LAST TIME! SHE WAS WAITING...

CHARLES, WHY...WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO... BREAK AWAY FROM ME?

WE MUST NEVER MEET AGAIN, DEAREST... NEVER!



THAT NIGHT, LONG AFTER MIDNIGHT, HER VOICE CAME TO ME AGAIN, CALLING FROM KENNISTON CRAG...

I... I'VE GOT TO GO TO HER! SHE...WANTS...ME! BUT I'M...TOO WEAK... CAN'T MAKE...IT!



EVERY NIGHT WAS MADDENING, AS HER VOICE CALLED CEASELESSLY, PITIFULLY, TELLING ME THERE WAS A BALL THAT NIGHT AT DICEY MANOR, AND SHE HAD TO HAVE ME AS HER ESCORT! MUCH AS I LOVED HER, I KNEW I HAD TO ESCAPE HER POWER! WHEN I WAS WELL AGAIN...

WHEN WILL THE HANSOM BE HERE?

IN A FEW HOURS, SIR!

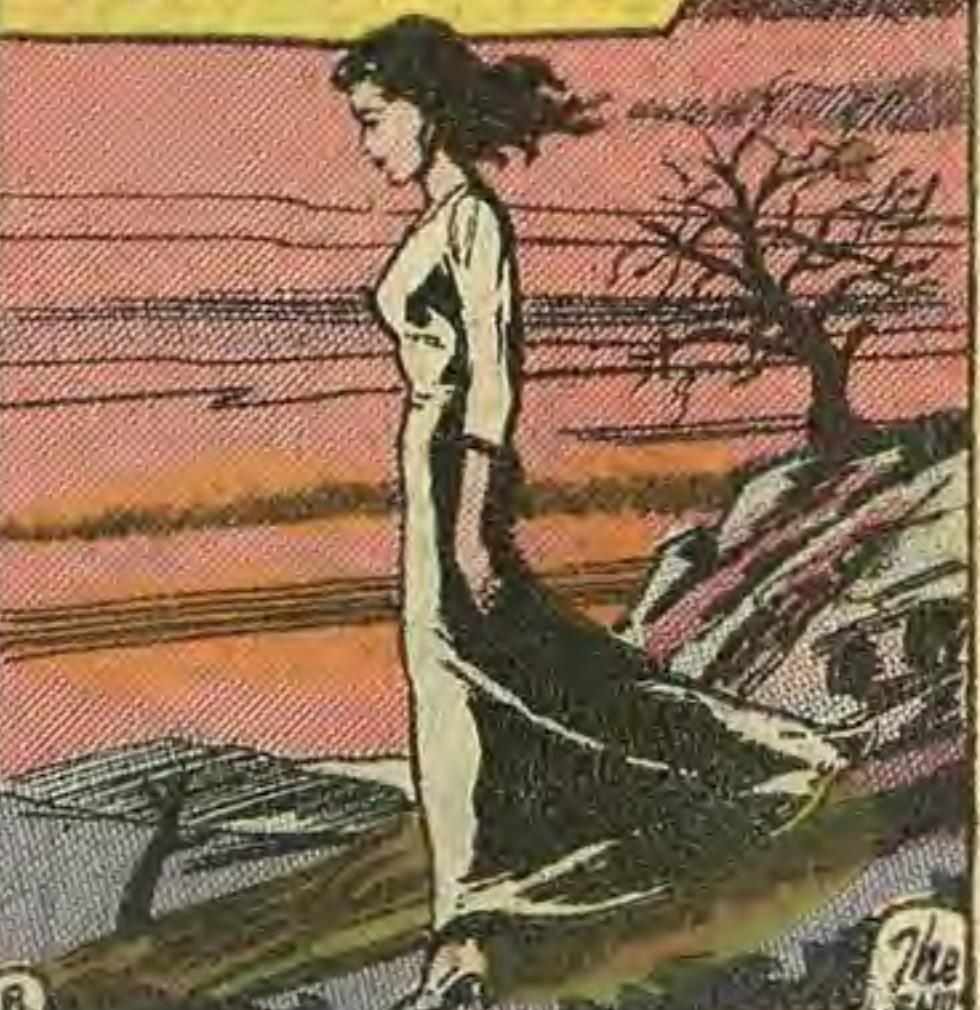


I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER THE AGONY OF FAREWELL! I KNEW I WOULD NEVER FORGET HER, WOULD LIVE FOREVER WITH HER MEMORY... THAT LONELY FIGURE ON KENNISTON CRAG, WHO COULD ONLY BE MINE BY PAYING TOO HIGH A PRICE...

IT'LL TAKE EVERY OUNCE OF COURAGE FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE TO STAY AWAY FROM THE CRAG... WHERE THE TIME FLAW IS...



AND AS THE YEARS OF MY LIFE PASSED, IN MY MIND'S EYE I COULD SEE HER, WITH THE WIND LASHING HER SKIRTS, STANDING THERE FORLORNLY WITH THE SMELL OF HEATHER IN HER HAIR... WAITING FOR A MAN SHE WOULD NEVER SEE AGAIN!



The END

REVERSIBLE AUTO SEAT COVERS

MADE OF FLEXTON — SERVICE GAUGE PLASTIC
FOR LONG WEAR



STYLE - 400

Snake-Zebra Design—Printed Plastic can be used on either side. Gives snappy distinctive dress up appearance. Front or Rear Seat only.

\$2.98

STYLE - 500

Leopard Cowhide design on Printed Flexton Plastic. Leopard on one side, Cowhide on the other. Either side gives beauty to your car's seats. Never gets dirty for it cleans with a whisk of a damp cloth. Front or Rear.

\$2.98

• Waterproof. Easy to attach to seats for good fit. Roomy and neat. Elastic shirring and reinforced overlap side grips insure over-all seat coverage. Will dress up your car's interior and give protection to seat upholstery. Whisk off mud, oil, sand, grime with a damp rag for bright as new appearance. Sewn with nylon thread for long wear and durability.

ORDER FROM MANUFACTURER AND SAVE!

Choice of split or front seat styles only \$2.98 each. Complete set for Front & Rear only \$5.00. Specify make of car and seat style with each order. Save Money and buy a set today.

5 day Money Back Guarantee!

MARDO SALES LS-66
480 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N. Y.

Please send me seat covers I have marked. I can try for 10 days and return for refund of purchase price if I am not satisfied.

- Zebra-Snake Design, Reversible
- Leopard Cowhide Design, Reversible
- Split Seat \$2.98 Solid Seat \$2.98
- Set (Front & Rear) \$5.00
- I enclose payment Send C.O.D.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

RUSH

ORDER TODAY!

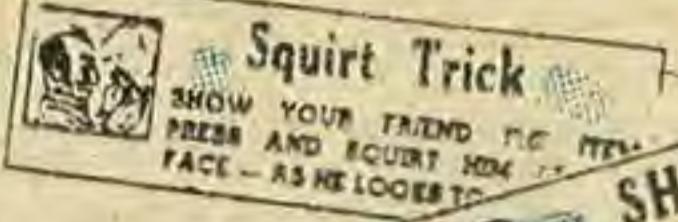
Fool Your Friends!

Giant package of IMPORTED TRICKS
Be the LIFE OF THE PARTY!



SHAPING CHEWING GUM

When the victim reaches for a stick of gum and the spring snaps WATCH HIM JUMP!



Squirt Trick
SHOW YOUR FRIEND THE TRICK
PRESS AND SQUIRT HIS FACE — AS HE LOOKS TO



SHINER
BLACK EYE JOKE!
TRYING TO
FOCUS THE TOE
SCOPE THEY GET
A BLACK EYE.



MAGIC WATER FLOWER
DROP CONTENTS IN WATER
FLOWERS WILL APPEAR



SUCKERS
CARD TRICK

10c
Open the folder. When a card is selected it will be seen A D. J. P. M. Trick

Special Offer

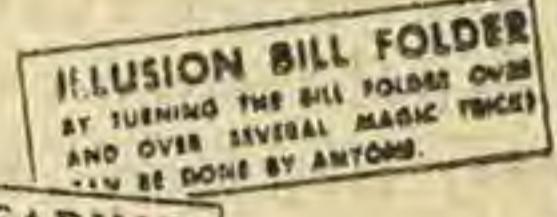
12 TRICKS
ONLY

\$1

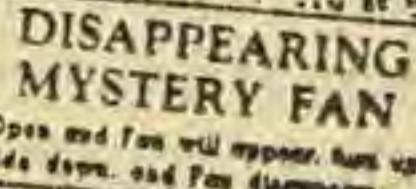


Jumping Snake
CIGAR

OFFER YOUR FRIEND A CIGAR WHICH
HE ACCEPTS. SQUEEZE A SNAKE
WHICH WILL POP OUT.



ILLUSION BILL FOLDER
BY TURNING THE BILL FOLDER OVER
AND OVER SEVERAL MAGIC TRICKS
CAN BE DONE BY ANYONE.



DISAPPEARING
MYSTERY FAN

Open and Fan will appear. Turn up
side down, and Fan disappears.

RUSH COUPON TODAY! MONEY BACK GUARANTEED

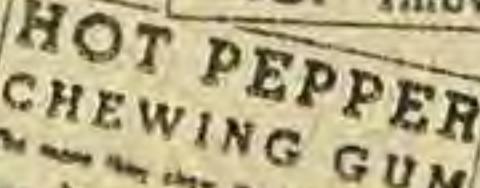
PAUL MARTIN NOVELTY CO. Dept. AC-5

31 West 47th Street,
New York 36, N.Y.

Please rush me Giant Package of Imported Funny and Magic Tricks. I am enclosing \$1.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____



HOT PEPPER
CHEWING GUM



LIT CIGARETTE
YOU WILL SURPRISE EVERYBODY LOOKS
LIKE THE REAL THING. IT'S A REAL FOOLER.

VOICE out of SPACE

HANK MORRIS and Bert Greeley had been friends since childhood. They'd gone to school together, both majored in physical sciences throughout college, continued on to advanced studies and both became brilliant scientists. What more natural, in view of their closeness, than to become associated in research? That's what the two friends did, and their subject was space flight. They worked hard building a rocket which they hoped would be the first to penetrate outer space. Their only relaxation were occasional dates with Elaine Jensen, their lovely laboratory assistant. These dates seemed casual to Bert, but they meant everything to Hank, who, in his quiet, repressed way, was head-over-heels in love with Elaine, but too shy to let the fact become known. But there was nothing he wouldn't do for her...just as there was nothing he wouldn't do for Bert, his closest friend.

Just as soon as their rocket was successfully tested, Hank determined to propose to Elaine. In the meantime, he and Bert worked hard on the rocket, and at last it was completed. And now there was no holding Bert. He wasn't satisfied just to send the rocket up and learn what happened from its recording devices. It was more important, he insisted, to prove whether man could sustain flight in space, and therefore he wanted to pilot the rocket. But Hank knew how dangerous this was, and wanted to wait until protective safety devices could be developed and built into the device. The trouble was that Bert wouldn't wait. To do so would involve the risk of others beating them to their goal. After all, he said, he was willing to take the risk! But here Hank turned adamant. If anybody was going to take the risk, why not him? They drew lots...and Bert won. He'd pilot the rocket on its risky first flight...it was decided!

On the very night before the rocket was to make its test flight, Hank returned to the laboratory for something he had forgotten, and saw something which shook him to the core of his being. Bert and Elaine...in each other's arms! He heard them expressing their love for each other, planning for their future together, and turned away, tears in his eyes. And the next morning, on schedule, the rocket took off with a flaring roar...bound for outer space! And a few hours later, Bert staggered into the laboratory, a large lump adorning his forehead. Elaine leaped to her feet, her face white. "B-Bert!" she gasped. "...I thought you were in the rocket! What happened?"

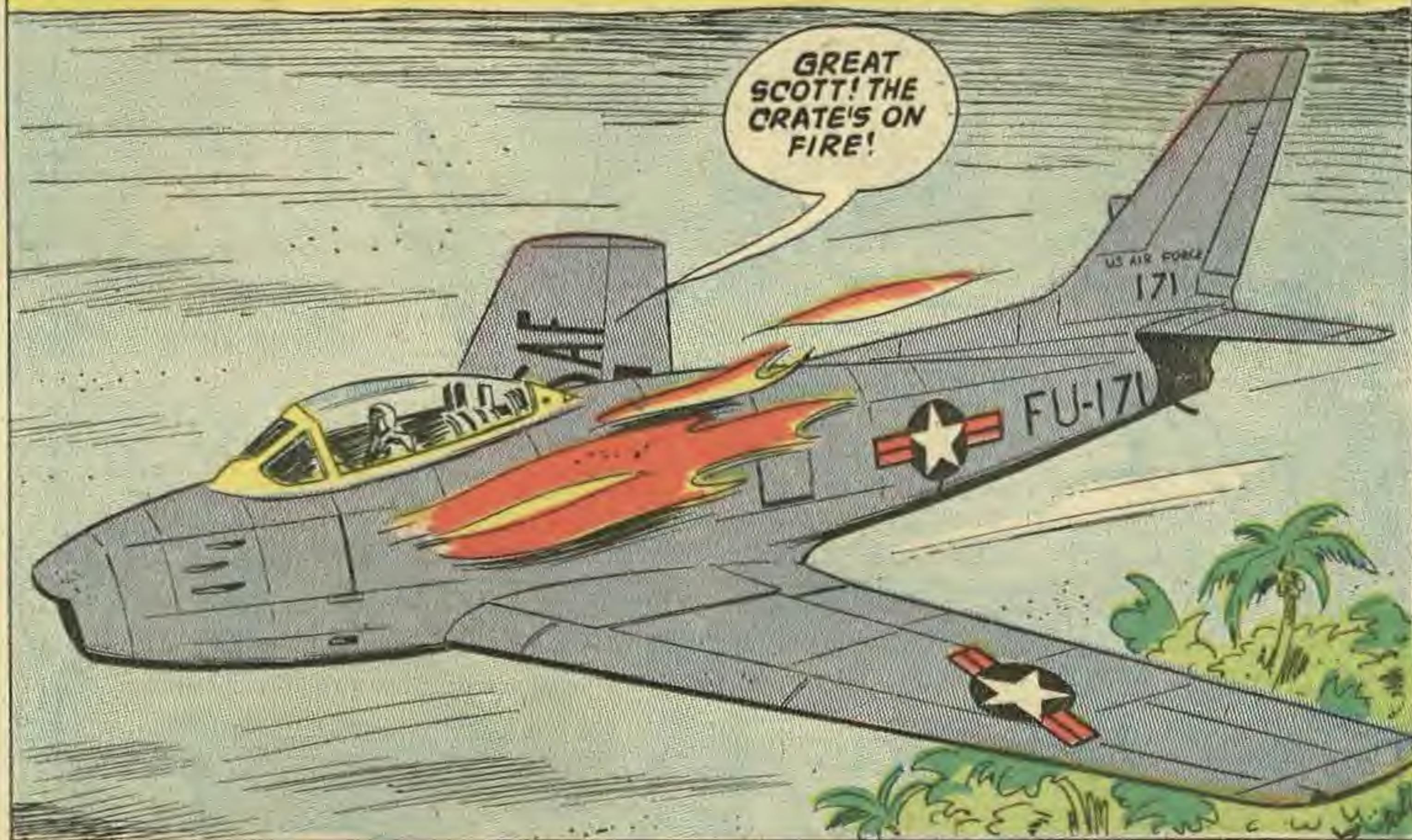
"It was Hank!" gritted Bert. "My friend! He wanted the honor of piloting the rocket...so he slugged me and took my place! The low, scheming..." here his voice broke off as another took its place. It came from a mechanical speaker mounted on a complicated wall panel. "Listen!" gasped Elaine. "That's Hank now...reporting from the rocket! It...it's far out in space by now!"

"This is Hank!" said the voice out of space. "This is my last message to you, Bert and Elaine...the two people I care for more than anyone in the world! I'm sorry I had to slug you, Bert...believe me, it wasn't because I wanted the glory! You see, I found out something last night ...that you two kids are in love...and I had to do something fast! You'd never listen, Bert, but my calculations indicated that space can't sustain life...and you...you've got to live for Elaine! Be ...good to her, boy...and you, Elaine...take care of him! Hot in here...getting...hotter...heart beating faster, faster...can't...breathe...goodbye..."

The voice from the speaker broke off abruptly. It was the last they ever heard from the rocket.

GREAT CIVILIZATIONS AND ANCIENT EMPIRES ARE BURIED IN THE ETERNALLY SHIFTING SANDS OF THE VAST MIDDLE-EASTERN DESERTS! BUT WHO KNOWS WHAT OTHER SECRETS LIE BURIED BENEATH THE TIMELESS DUNES... SECRETS TO STAGGER THE IMAGINATION OF MAN? HERE'S THE INCREDIBLE TALE OF PILOT LLOYD MORGAN, AND THE PROOF HE BROUGHT BACK FROM THE...

STRANGE GARDEN!



IT HAD STARTED AS A ROUTINE MILITARY FLIGHT FROM CAIRO TO ATHENS, AND NOW...



HE HAD FLOWN THE AREA MANY TIMES, AND WAS QUITE CONFUSED BY THE PRESENCE OF AN OASIS IN THE DISTANCE...



FROM A DISTANCE IT HAD LOOKED LIKE AN ORDINARY SPOT, BUT AS HE DREW CLOSE...



FANTASTIC FLOWERS DAZZLED HIS EYES, AND SUBTLE PERFUMES MADE HIS SENSES REEL...

IT'S THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PLACE I'VE EVER SEEN! MAYBE I'M IMAGINING ALL THIS... MAYBE I NEVER GOT OUT OF THE PLANE ALIVE... **MAYBE I'M DEAD!**



HE BENT OVER A WONDROUSLY CLEAR POOL AND SAW HIS IMAGE REFLECTED LIKE A MIRROR! THE WATER WAS COOL AND REFRESHING -- MAGICALLY DELICIOUS...



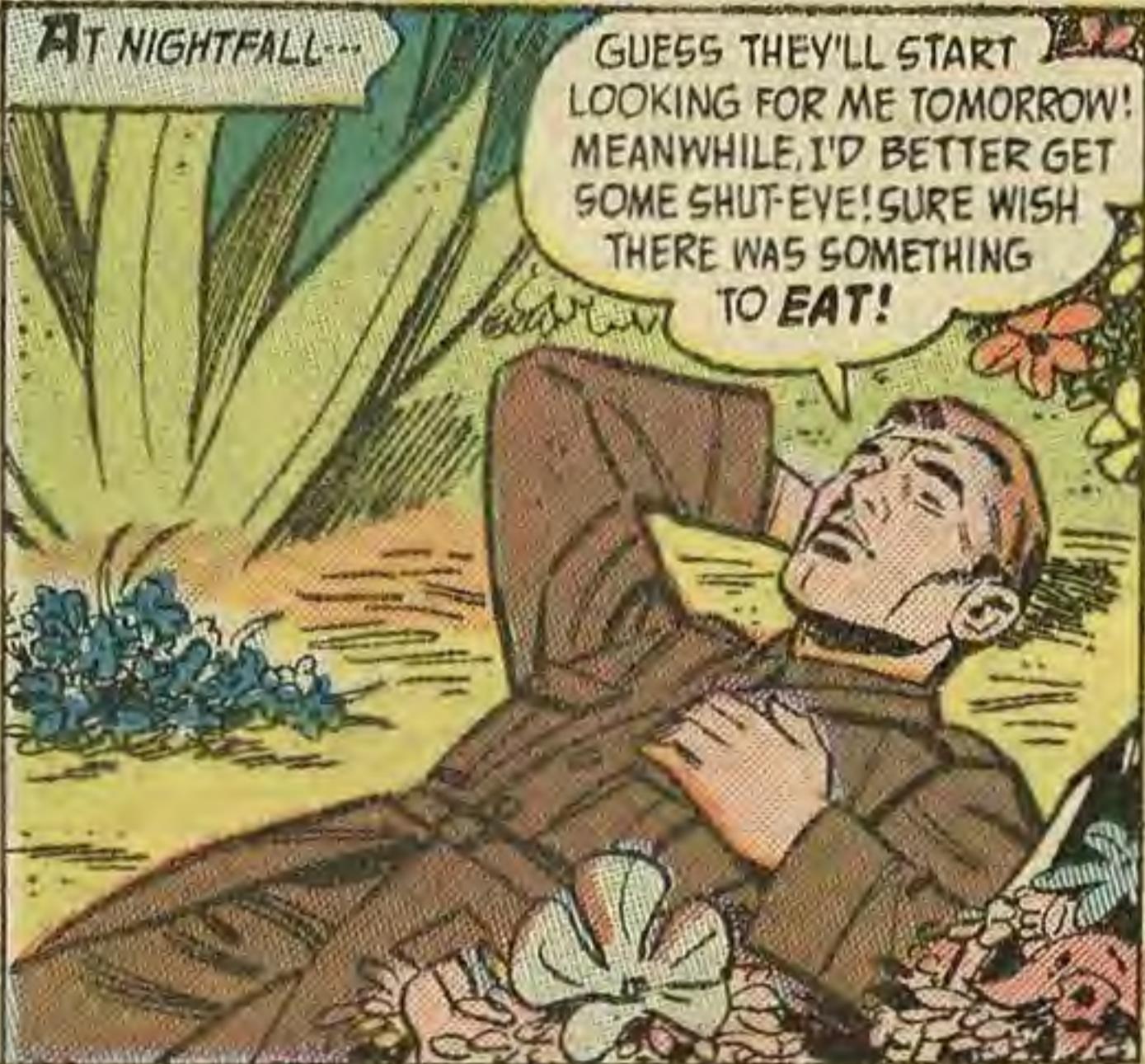
IT WAS THEN HE NOTICED THAT APART FROM THE VEGETATION, THERE WAS NO LIFE OF ANY KIND ABOUT! NOTHING MOVED THERE, WAS NOT EVEN THE HUM OF AN INSECT...

EVERYTHING'S STRANGE ABOUT THIS PLACE! WELL, AT LEAST I CAN WATCH FOR SEARCH PLANES FROM HERE! BETTER THAN BAKING OUT ON THE DESERT!



AT NIGHTFALL...

GUESS THEY'LL START LOOKING FOR ME TOMORROW! MEANWHILE, I'D BETTER GET SOME SHUT-EYE! SURE WISH THERE WAS SOMETHING TO EAT!



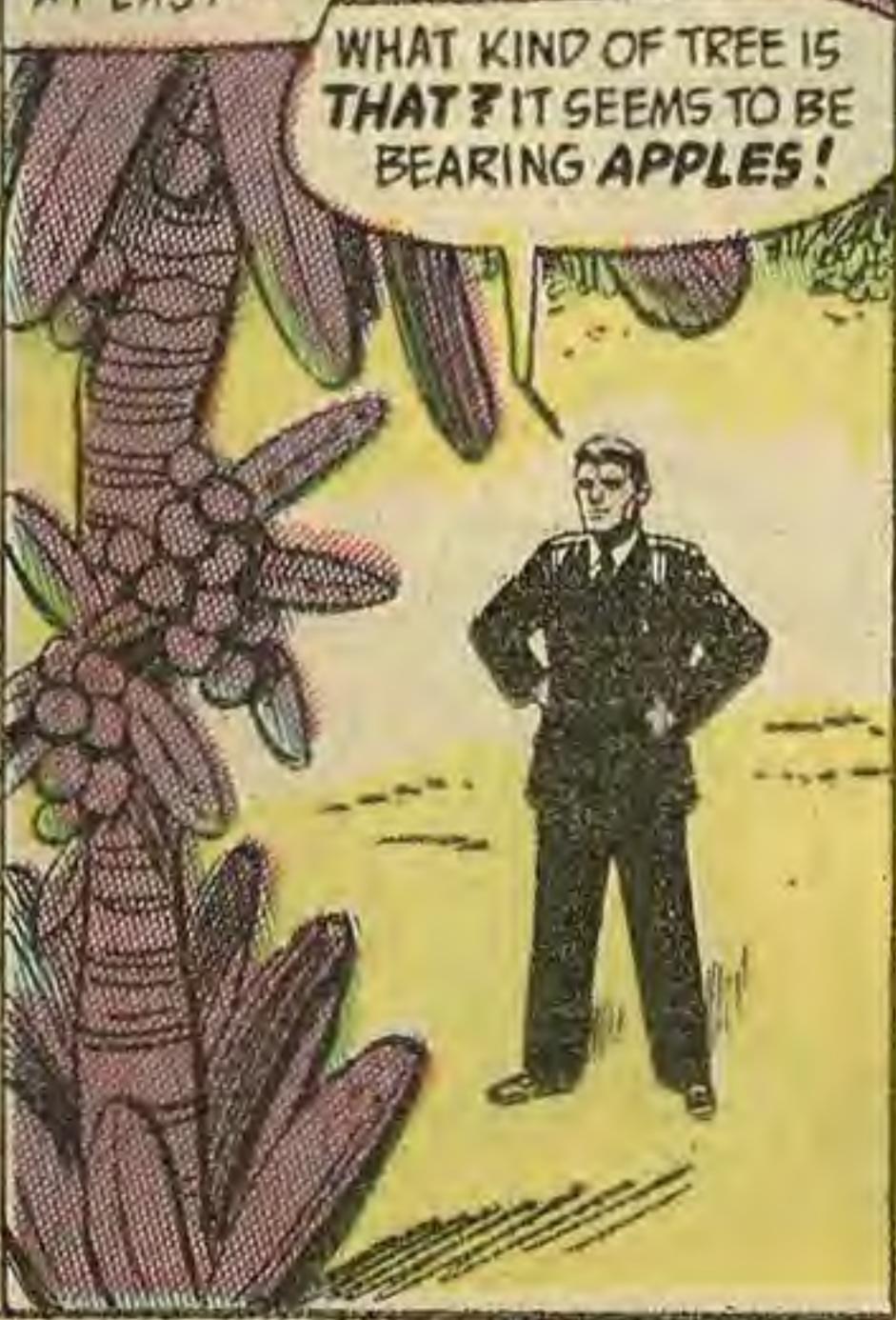
UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE SOUNDNESS OF HIS SLEEP WAS REMARKABLE! WHEN HE AWOKE NEXT MORNING...

NEVER SLEPT BETTER IN MY LIFE! WITH ALL THIS GROWTH AROUND THERE MUST BE SOMETHING EDIBLE!



HE COMMENCED TO EXPLORE THE OASIS SYSTEMATICALLY! EVERY STEP DISCLOSED NEW BEAUTIES, UNTIL AT LAST...

WHAT KIND OF TREE IS THAT? IT SEEMS TO BE BEARING APPLES!



HUNGRILY HE PLUCKED ONE OF THE FRUITS OFF A BRANCH...

PERFECT! THE FINEST APPLE I EVER TASTED! AT LEAST NOW I WON'T STARVE TO DEATH!



HIS HUNGER ABATED, LLOYD FELT ANXIOUS TO RID HIMSELF OF THE DESERT DUST...

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, THOSE GUYS CAN TAKE THEIR TIME FINDING ME! I NEVER FELT HAPPIER IN MY LIFE!



STRANGELY, THOUGH HE HAD CRASHED ON A REGULAR AIR ROUTE, HE HEARD NOT A SINGLE PLANE PASS IN THE FOLLOWING THREE DAYS! NOR WAS THERE ANY INDICATION THAT RECONNAISSANCE PLANES HAD BEEN SENT FOR HIM--

I DON'T UNDERSTAND... THEY KNOW I'M MISSING BY NOW! WHY AREN'T THEY LOOKING FOR ME?

ANOTHER DAY PASSED, AND ANOTHER--AND FINALLY A WEEK WAS GONE!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT--BUT SOMETHING VERY PECULIAR HAS HAPPENED! SOMEHOW I KNOW THEY'LL NEVER FIND ME! I'LL HAVE TO MAKE IT BACK TO CIVILIZATION ON FOOT!

HE WAITED TWO MORE DAYS BEFORE ATTEMPTING THE JOURNEY...

THE ONLY THING I'LL HAVE TO EAT ARE THESE APPLES! THINK I'LL TAKE BACK A LEAF AND FIND OUT WHAT KIND OF APPLE TREE THIS IS! I COULD MAKE A FORTUNE GROWING THIS FRUIT--IT'S GREAT!

HE STOPPED AT THE WRECKAGE OF HIS PLANE TO LEAVE A WRITTEN MESSAGE, IN CASE HELP CAME WHEN HE WAS GONE, AND THERE HE MADE A STARTLING DISCOVERY!

FOOTPRINTS! BUT HOW'S THAT POSSIBLE? IF A CARAVAN HAD PASSED THEY'D HAVE HEADED FOR THE OASIS! BEGIDES, IF IT'D BEEN A CARAVAN, THERE'D BE CAMEL TRACKS!

THE SUN BLAZED PITILESSLY, AND HIS STRENGTH EBDED QUICKLY! FOR THREE DAYS HE STAGGERED ON! HE'D EATEN THE LAST OF THE APPLES, AND HIS BODY CRIED OUT FOR FOOD AND WATER...

I... I WAS A FOOL TO TRY THIS! I SHOULD'VE STAYED IN THE OASIS... HELP WOULD HAVE COME EVENTUALLY!

HE WAS AT THE END OF HIS STRENGTH WHEN...

BY THE PROPHET! SOME FOOL IS BRAVING THE DESERT ON FOOT!

IN AN ARAB VILLAGE ON THE EDGE OF THE DESERT...

HE COLLAPSED WHEN I REACHED HIM! I THINK IT IS AN AMERICAN!

BY HIS GARB I WARRANT HE IS A FLYER! HE MUST BE TAKEN TO A HOSPITAL!

WHEN LLOYD REVIVED...

HE NEEDS ONLY REST FOR A DAY OR TWO! AMERICAN AUTHORITIES ARE SENDING A PLANE FOR HIM!

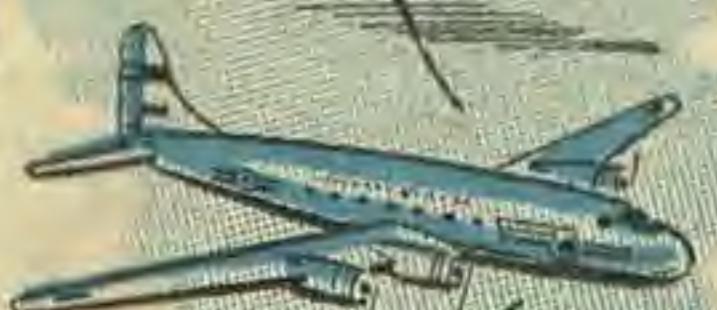
GREAT SCOTT! HE'S SPEAKING IN ARABIC... AND SOMEHOW, I CAN UNDERSTAND EVERY WORD HE SAYS!

48 HOURS LATER, FLYING BACK TO AN AMERICAN BASE, LLOYD GOT HIS SECOND JOLT...

WE ALL FIGURED YOU WERE DEAD FOR SURE! AFTER WE FOUND THE WRECKAGE OF YOUR PLANE AND NO SIGN OF YOU FOR OVER A WEEK...

WH-A-AT?
BUT YOU COULDN'T HAVE SPOTTED MY PLANE! I WOULD'VE HEARD YOUR MOTORS! I'D'VE COME RUNNING OUT OF THE OASIS!

WHAT OASIS?
THERE WAS NOTHING AROUND BUT DESERT FOR MILES AND MILES!



AT THE AIRBASE, LLOYD TOLD HIS WHOLE STORY TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER...

IT WAS ALL A HALLUCINATION. MORGAN... QUITE COMMON IN THE DESERT!

IF THAT'S ALL IT WAS, WHAT KEPT ME ALIVE FOR MORE THAN A WEEK? AND WHERE DID I GET THIS LEAF... IF NOT OFF THE TREE I TOLD YOU ABOUT?



WHILE THE LEAF WAS ANALYZED BY EXPERTS, LLOYD WAS EXAMINED BY THE BASE PSYCHIATRIST...

AND YOU SAY YOU UNDERSTOOD ARABIC... PERFECTLY... EVEN THOUGH YOU NEVER UNDERSTOOD IT BEFORE? MIND TAKING SOME TESTS?

NOT AT ALL, SIR!

AFTER HOURS OF STRINGENT EXAMINATION...

YOU MUST BE A PATHOLOGICAL LIAR, MORGAN! NOT ONLY DO YOU KNOW ARABIC, BUT ALSO FRENCH, GERMAN, LATIN, SWEDISH, GREEK AND HIGHER MATHEMATICS! THESE TESTS SHOW YOU'RE AN EXTRA-ORDINARY GENIUS!

I TELL YOU I NEVER KNEW THEM BEFORE! CHECK MY COLLEGE RECORDS... I NEVER STUDIED ANY OF THOSE THINGS!



THE REPORT FROM THE BOTANY LAB WAS EVEN MORE STARTLING...

THIS LEAF HAS NEVER BEEN CLASSIFIED! SEEMS TO BE SOME SORT OF FRUIT TREE LEAF... BUT OF AN EXTREMELY ANCIENT TYPE!

HOW ANCIENT? OLD ENOUGH TO HAVE BEEN IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN?

GARDEN OF EDEN? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

ALL I KNOW IS I'M SUDDENLY A GENIUS... AND WHAT ELSE CAN I TRACE IT TO BUT MY STRANGE EXPERIENCE... IN THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GARDEN IN THE WORLD!



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From **YOUR EDITOR - to** *YOU!*

THROUGH THESE pages pass the most wonderful people in the world...the loyal fans and faithful readers of "Forbidden Worlds"! And at this time, we'd like to thank you, sincerely, for the wonderful cooperation which you're affording us. Specifically, we're referring to your letters, which reflect the interest you possess in this magazine. You've complimented us, very frequently, on what we're doing, and sent along bouquets on our stories and illustration. Naturally, we love this...praise is a wonderful and warming

thing. But we've received our share of brickbats, too, from folks who might not have liked something which we carried. We welcome censure, too, so long as it's sincere. Because only through knowing the likes and dislikes of readers can we build a fine magazine. We think we've done this in "Forbidden Worlds"...and we look forward to your letter! Remember the address...The Editor, "Forbidden Worlds", 45 West 45th Street, New York 36, N.Y. And now...take over, readers! Remember that this page is your sounding board, so let's go!

"Dear Editor:-

I've been a reader of 'Forbidden Worlds' for a long time, because your stories and art work are great! Ogden Whitney draws some of the best covers and stories I've ever seen. I can't tell you your mistakes, because there are none, except for one thing...what happened to 'Truevision'? I think it was one of the neatest ideas since 3-dimensional movies! Please answer this in your column!

...Brian Finnerty, New York, N.Y."

"Truevision" was a noble experiment, wasn't it? We undertook it as an additional reader service, and it did give a real 3-D effect...but the black coloring it required smeared on occasion, and we had to discontinue it.

"Dear Editor:-

I'm a faithful reader of 'Forbidden Worlds' and have enjoyed it for a number of years. It's still my favorite comic around. The story I liked best in recent issues was 'Journey Into Time'. But please...let's have one story with a happy ending!

...Ronald Lenny, Edmonton, Canada"

Come, come, Ron...we're not that mournful! We have lots of stories that end happily. But we're not afraid to feature a sad conclusion if that's the way the big ball bounces!

"Dear Editor:-

Enclosed is \$1.20 for a subscription to 'Forbidden Worlds'. This magazine is a favorite with my husband and therefore I am including this subscription as one of his birthday presents. A year-long remembrance from this fascinating comic book will be one of his treasured gifts this year. I might also add that I, too, enjoy the exciting reading this magazine offers.

...Mrs. Betty L. Mills, Winthrop, Mass."

Thanks a lot, Mrs. Mills. Yours is a heart-warming letter, and we'll continue to do our best to justify your kind words!

"Dear Editor:-

Ever since I have been able to read, I have shunned 'horror books' of all kinds. Recently, however, my younger sister purchased 'Forbidden Worlds' and I have never enjoyed such good, clean, imaginative stories in my life. I have come to the conclusion that whoever wrote 'Pussycat On The Dog Star' is very clever. You also have a very good artist that drew 'The Hypnotic Trance'. All your stories are simply tops, and I hope you continue your record...you have a very good comic book! Oh, by the way, I wanted to mention that I thought the 'Pussycat' story was very hilarious. An avid reader...

...Sandra Banks, San Angelo, Texas."

Congo Episode!

ALL THAT MUMBO-JUMBO...YOU'D THINK THEY'D WISE UP SOMETIMES!

DON'T BE SO SURE, SLOAN...THERE MAY BE SOME STRANGE SCIENTIFIC BASIS TO WHAT YOU SEE!

CIVILIZATION HAS COME A LONG WAY...AND IGNORANCE HAS BEEN LEFT FAR BEHIND! TODAY, WE LAUGH AT THE VERY MENTION OF THE WORD **MAGIC**, CONSIGNING IT TO THE REALM OF CHILDREN'S FAIRY-TALES! BUT JUST SUPPOSE THE ANCIENT JUNGLES HID A MAGIC WHICH WAS ACTUALLY A VARIETY OF **SECRET SCIENCE**! IMPOSSIBLE? WELL...HERE'S THE STORY!

IN THE HOME OF PROF. ALFRED CARLETON, DISTINGUISHED ANTHROPOLOGIST...

I INTEND TO REACH THE **UPPER CONGO** IN MY NEXT EXPEDITION... AND STUDY THE **DRAHILI TRIBE** MINUTELY!

IF ANY MAN CAN DO IT, CARLETON... YOU CAN!

IT WAS DIFFICULT FINDING A PHOTOGRAPHER WILLING TO ACCOMPANY THE EXPEDITION, BUT FINALLY...

GLAD YOU'RE COMING ALONG, SLOAN! IT'LL BE AN ADVENTURE FOR A YOUNG MAN LIKE YOU!

ADVENTURE, BUNK! I'D NEVER HAVE TAKEN THIS JOB IF I WASN'T DOWN TO MY LAST TEN BUCKS!

SLOAN'S MOOD GREW EVEN BLACKER AS THE JOURNEY'S DISCOMFORTS INCREASED...

WEEKS OF ARDUOUS TRAVEL PASSED, AND THE END WAS NOT YET IN SIGHT...

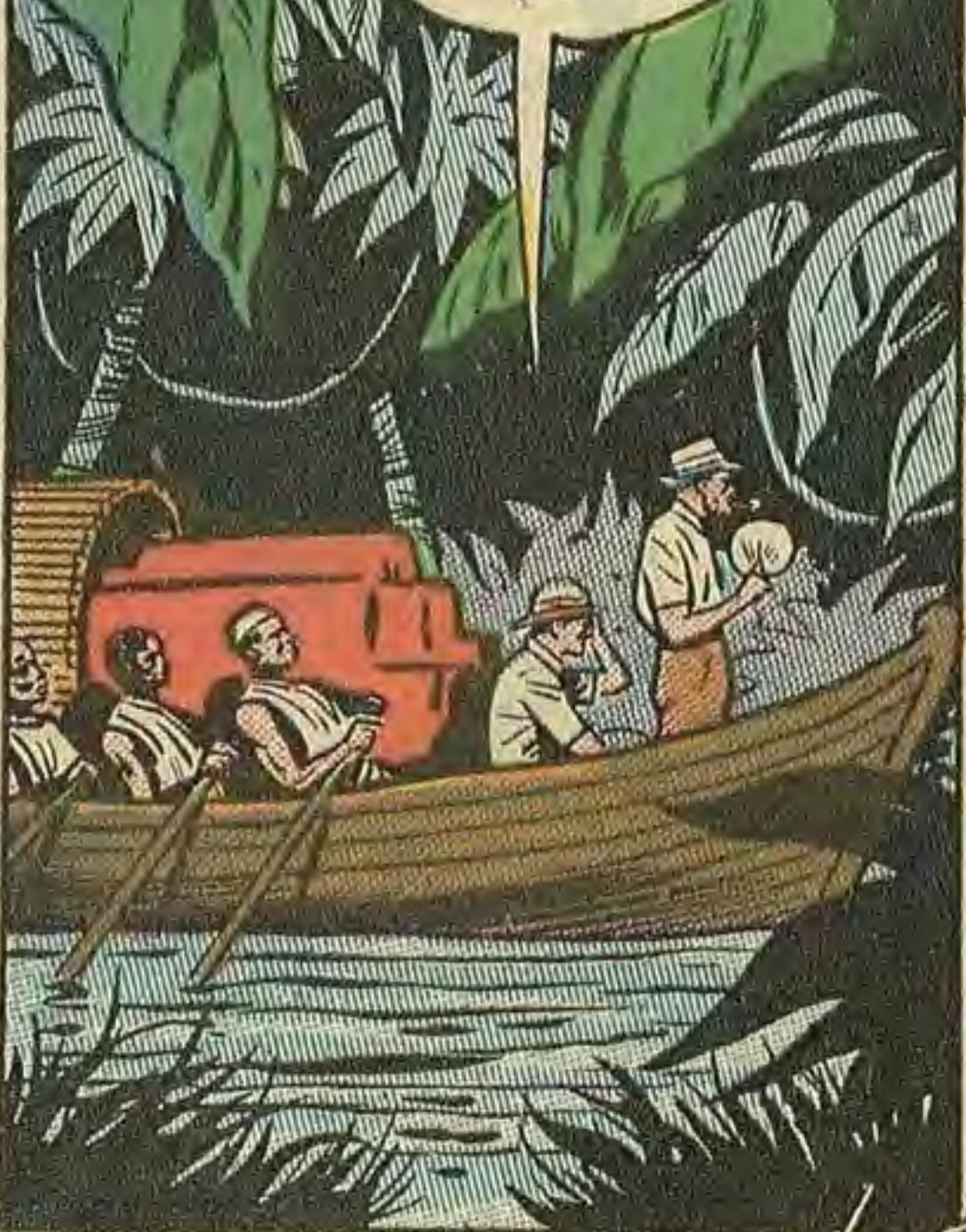
PROPHETIC WORDS! HIGHER, EVER HIGHER INTO THE HILLS THEY WENT--UNTIL AT LAST...

MOSQUITOES, HEAT, VERMIN... YOU CAN **KEEP** AFRICA!

WHERE ARE THOSE BLASTED DRAHILIS?

OVER A HUNDRED MILES AWAY YET--OVER THOSE MOUNTAINS! NOT MANY WHITE MEN HAVE EVER SEEN WHAT **WE'LL SEE!**

MEB'WENNO ... TAI!



NEXT MOMENT, EAR-PIERCING CRIES ROARED OUT OF THE HILLS...

DON'T FIRE, YOU FOOL! LET ME HANDLE THIS!

WE COME AS FRIENDS! I CARRY MANY GIFTS FOR THE GREAT DRAHILIS! I MUST SPEAK TO YOUR CHIEF!

COME!



IN THE NATIVE VILLAGE...

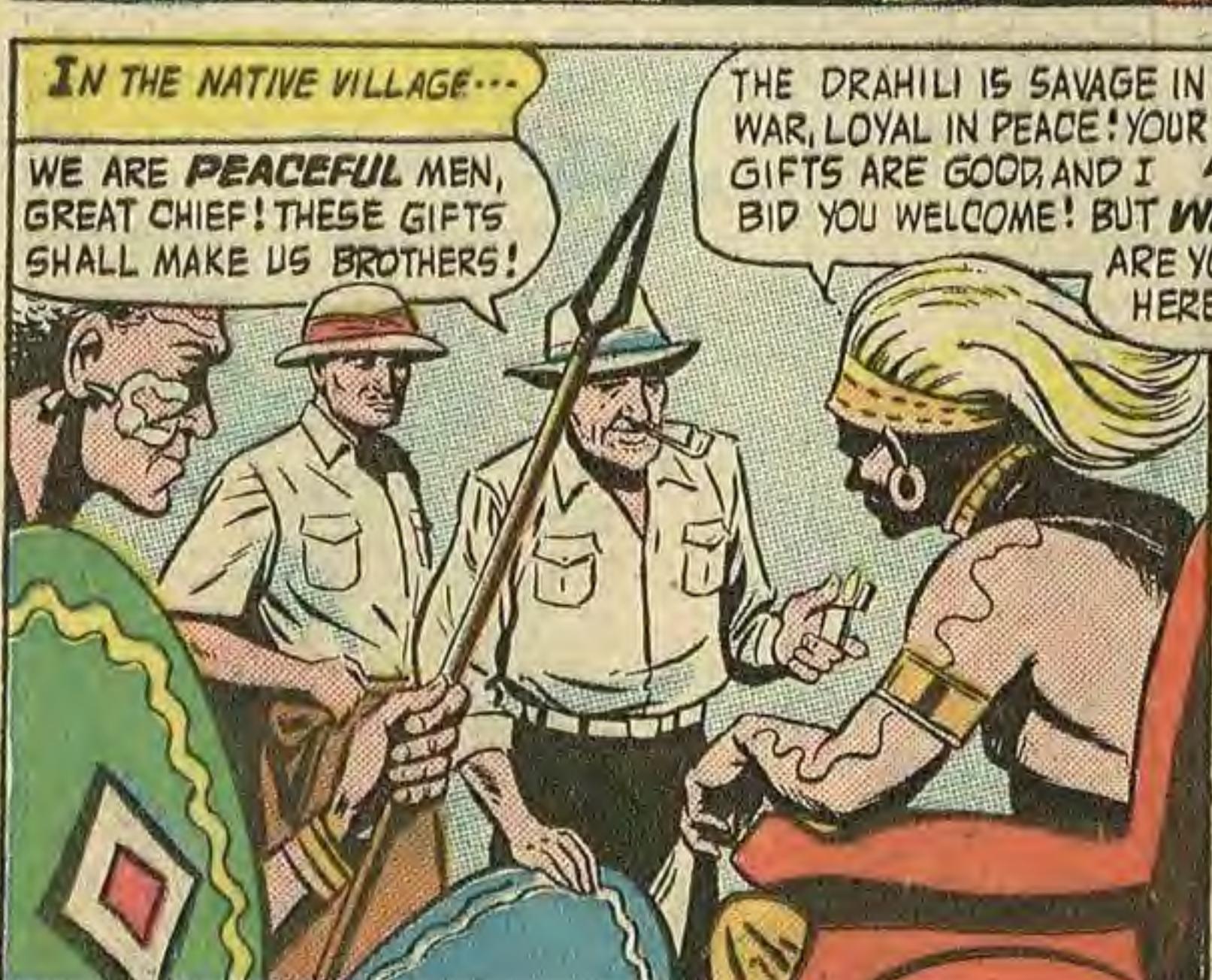
WE ARE PEACEFUL MEN, GREAT CHIEF! THESE GIFTS SHALL MAKE US BROTHERS!

THE DRAHILI IS SAVAGE IN WAR, LOYAL IN PEACE! YOUR GIFTS ARE GOOD, AND I BID YOU WELCOME! BUT WHY ARE YOU HERE?

IT TOOK A LONG TIME FOR CARLETON TO EXPLAIN, BUT FINALLY...

THERE CAN BE NO HARM IN WATCHING US... YOU MAY STAY!

THAT NECKLACE THE CHIEF IS WEARING... IT MUST BE WORTH A FORTUNE!



AFTER THE EQUIPMENT WAS UNLOADED...

HAVE YOU NOTICED ALL THE JEWELS AND GOLD THESE PEOPLE WEAR? THE TRIBE MUST BE WORTH MILLIONS! BETTER FORGET ABOUT THAT, SLOAN! OFFEND THE CHIEF IN ANY WAY, AND THEY'D MAKE SHORT WORK OF US!



FOR WEEKS CARLETON MADE CAREFUL NOTES ON DRAHILI LIFE, WHILE SLOAN TOOK PICTURES OF NATIVE RITUALS...

AT A BIG FEAST LIKE THIS, EVERYBODY GETS OUT THEIR GOOD JEWELRY! GOSH, I'VE BEEN POOR ALL MY LIFE... AND THEY DON'T EVEN KNOW ITS VALUE!



THE WORK WENT FORWARD WITHOUT INCIDENT, UNTIL THE CHIEF'S WIFE FELL ILL...

SO NOW THE WITCH DOCTOR'S GETTING INTO THE ACT, EH? JUST HOW BAD IS SHE, PROFESSOR?

I EXAMINED HER AN HOUR AGO! IT MUST BE BAD... SHE'S TOTALLY PARALYZED!



BUT THAT NIGHT WITNESSED A SAVAGE RITE AS THE WITCH DOCTOR USED ALL HIS SECRET KNOWLEDGE TO SAVE THE STRICKEN WOMAN...



FAT LOT OF GOOD HE'S DOING! WHAT A RACKET!

AND YET THE NATIVES HAVE NEVER LOST FAITH IN THESE RITUALS! IT MAKES YOU... WONDER!



SHORTLY AFTER DAWN...

HEAR ME, OH DRAHILIS! THE WIFE OF THE CHIEF MOVES HER LIMBS... SHE IS WELL AGAIN!

WELL, I'LL BE...



IN CELEBRATION, THE WHOLE TRIBE LEFT THE VILLAGE NEXT DAY TO OFFER UP THANKS...

THIS IS WHAT I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR... A CHANCE TO SEE THE IMAGE OF THEIR DEITY! I'M PUZZLED, CARLETON... I WAS SURE THAT WOMAN COULDN'T RECOVER... BUT SHE DID!



HIGH UP IN THE MOUNTAINSIDE
WAS A GREAT CAVE...

THIS GROUND IS SACRED!
WE ARE BEING GRANTED
A GREAT PRIVILEGE!

SACRED, EH?
TEN TO ONE
THEY'RE HIDING
SOMETHING!

WITHIN THE CAVE,
A STARTLING SIGHT...

WE BRING YOU
THANKS FOR
YOUR AID,
DIVINE
SPIRIT!

HOLY COW,
THERE ARE
JEWELS
ALL
OVER
THE
PLACE!



AS HE TRIED TO PHOTOGRAPH
THE SCENE...

NO! IT IS FOR-
BIDDEN!

THIS CAVE IS SUPREMELY SACRED!
IT IS FORBIDDEN TO MAKE ANY OTHER
IMAGE OF OUR DEITY!

OKAY, OKAY...
I'LL PUT AWAY
THE CAMERA!

THAT NIGHT, IN THE PRIVACY OF THEIR
TENT...

LOOK, PROFESSOR, I CAN
SNEAK UP THERE SOME NIGHT
AND TAKE ALL THE SHOTS I
WANT!

ARE YOU MAD?
TO THEM, IT WOULD BE
SACRILEGE! I
FORBID IT!



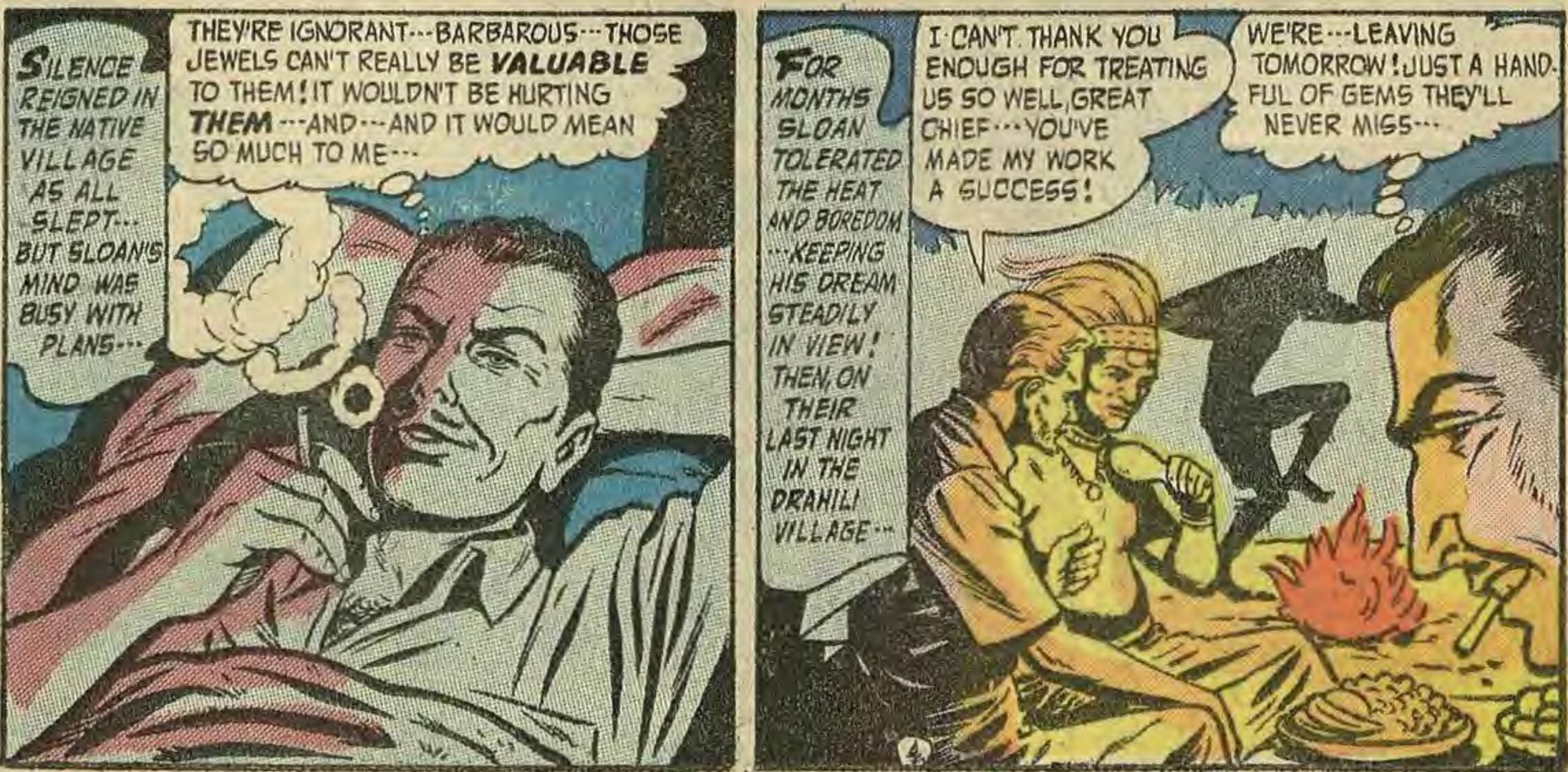
SILENCE
REIGNED IN
THE NATIVE
VILLAGE
AS ALL
SLEPT.
BUT SLOAN'S
MIND WAS
BUSY WITH
PLANS...

THEY'RE IGNORANT--BARBAROUS--THOSE
JEWELS CAN'T REALLY BE VALUABLE
TO THEM! IT WOULDN'T BE HURTING
THEM --AND--AND IT WOULD MEAN
SO MUCH TO ME--

FOR
MONTHS
SLOAN
TOLERATED
THE HEAT
AND BOREDOM
--KEEPING
HIS DREAM
STEADILY
IN VIEW!
THEN, ON
THEIR
LAST NIGHT
IN THE
DRAHILI
VILLAGE--

I CAN'T THANK YOU
ENOUGH FOR TREATING
US SO WELL, GREAT
CHIEF... YOU'VE
MADE MY WORK
A SUCCESS!

WE'RE--LEAVING
TOMORROW! JUST A HAND-
FUL OF GEMS THEY'LL
NEVER MISS--



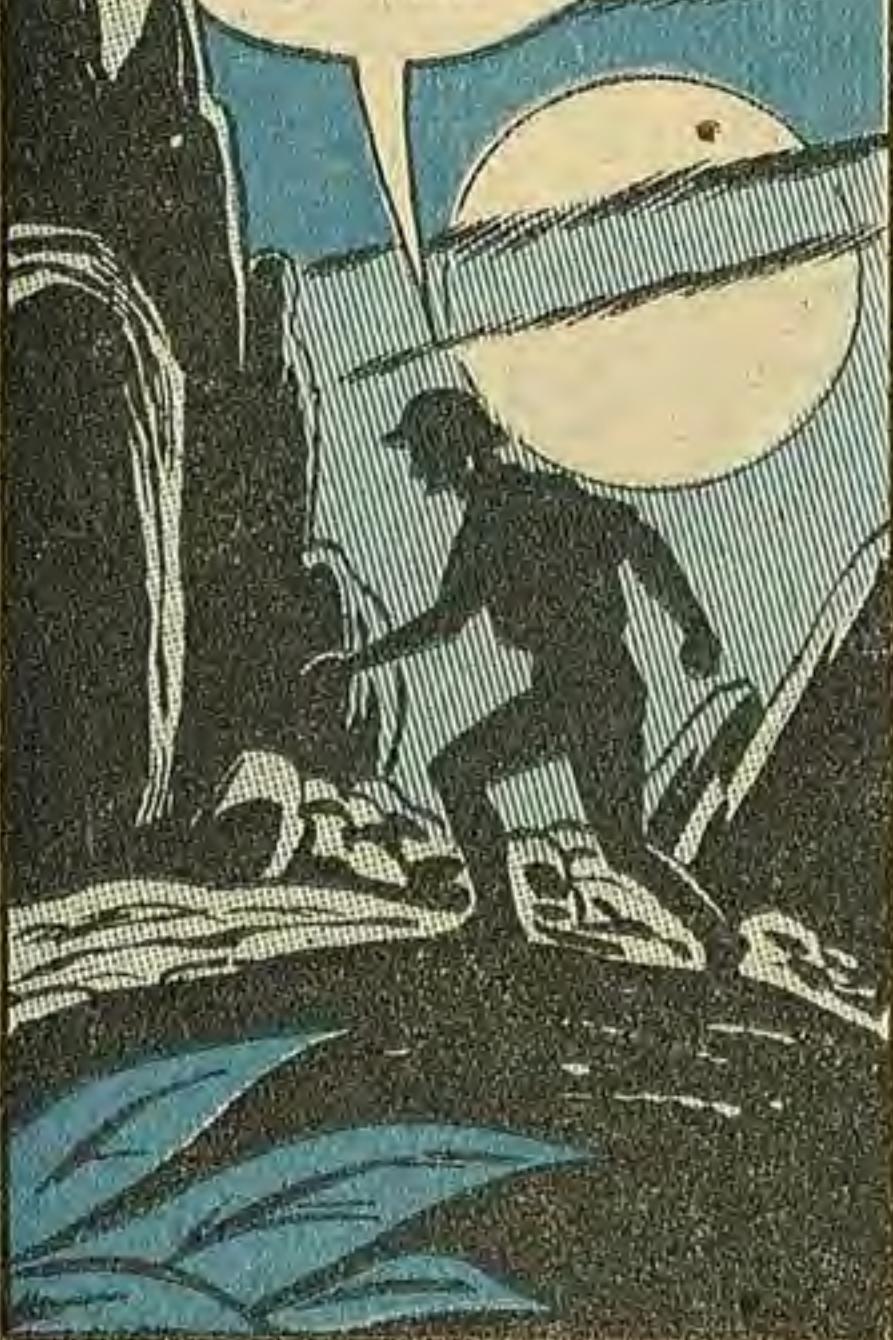
LONG AFTER MIDNIGHT, SLOAN CREEP STEALTHILY OUT OF THE VILLAGE...

IT...IT ISN'T AS IF I'M TAKING ANYTHING THEY NEED! THEY'VE GOT PLENTY...IT'S VALUELESS TO THEM...

NO GUARDS PROFANED THE SACRED GROUND, WHICH THE PEOPLE BELIEVED WAS PROTECTED BY THE GREAT SPIRIT ITSELF...

LION'S BODY AND A CROCODILE'S HEAD! AND THAT'S THEIR IDOL...I'M GETTING PICTURES NOW!

I...I'LL JUST TAKE A FEW OF THESE BAUBLES! THEY'LL NEVER KNOW THEY'RE GONE!



NEXT MORNING, THE CHIEF HIMSELF ACCCOMPANIED THE EXPEDITION PART OF THE WAY...

WE PART HERE! FAREWELL, WHITE MEN...YOUR WAY LIES THERE!

THANKS AGAIN, CHIEF!

NOT LONG AFTERWARD, A VIOLENT PLAGUE STRUCK THE DRAHILI VILLAGE...

IT IS THE WHITE DEATH! THE TENTH IN THREE DAYS!

WE MUST GO TO THE GREAT SPIRIT...AND PRAY FOR HELP!

ABOARD A SHIP IN CAPE TOWN...

GLAD TO SEE YOU IN SUCH GOOD SPIRITS, SLOAN! I TRUST YOU FOUND YOUR EXPERIENCES VALUABLE?

VERY VALUABLE, PROFESSOR!



NOT LONG AFTERWARD, A VIOLENT PLAGUE STRUCK THE DRAHILI VILLAGE...

IT IS THE WHITE DEATH! THE TENTH IN THREE DAYS!

WE MUST GO TO THE GREAT SPIRIT...AND PRAY FOR HELP!

ONCE MORE INSIDE THE CAVE, THE SACRILEGE WAS DISCOVERED...

SACRED GEMS HAVE BEEN STOLEN! THE WHITE MEN...THEY DID IT!

ONE WHITE MAN...I SAW HOW HE COVETED OUR JEWELS! BUT WE HAVE THE MEANS TO MAKE HIM PAY!



MY MESSAGE SHALL COVER
THE MILES AND SEEK HIM
OUT...AND THE GUILTY WILL
REPENT!



MEANWHILE, NEARING NEW YORK... **NOT INTERESTED!**
YOUR PICTURES WILL MAKE
YOUR REPUTATION, SLOAN!
OTHER EXPEDITIONS WILL
BE BEGGING FOR YOUR
SERVICES!



YOU---YOU MEAN YOU **TOOK** THOSE
PICTURES---EVEN THOUGH IT WAS
FORBIDDEN? YOU IDIOT---YOU
RISKED OUR LIVES!

WHY COMPLAIN?
WE'RE **SAFE**, AREN'T
WE? I'M NOT WORRIED
---NOTHING CAN
HARM ME **NOW!**



BUT WE GAVE OUR **WORD!** WHEN THE
DRAHLIS FIND OUT ABOUT IT, IT WILL
GIVE OTHER EXPEDITIONS A BAD NAME
ALL OVER AFRICA!

NONSENSE!
HOW WILL THEY
EVER FIND
OUT?



UNTIL THE SHIP DOCKED, NOT ANOTHER
WORD WAS SPOKEN BETWEEN THEM...

SLOAN, YOUR WRONGDOING WILL CATCH
UP WITH YOU---A MAN LIKE YOU ALWAYS
PAYS!

IF---IF HE
ONLY KNEW
THE **REST**
OF IT!



CARRYING
A FORTUNE
IN JEWELS
IN HIS
SUITCASE,
SLOAN
SPARED
NO EXPENSE...

OUR FINEST SUITE?
YES SIR, MR. SLOAN!



IT TOOK A FEW DAYS TO DEVELOP ALL THE FILM HE HAD
SHOT, AND HE WAS ANXIOUS TO SEE HOW IT HAD ALL COME
OUT...

MEMENTOS OF AFRICA---HA-HA! NEVER
FIGURED THE EXPEDITION WOULD BE
SO GOOD TO ME!



HMM, NOT BAD! A LITTLE DARK ON THE EXPOSURE... BUT NOT BAD!



AT THAT MOMENT, A STRANGE RITUAL CONTINUED IN DARKEST AFRICA...

I CONCENTRATE--CONCENTRATE, BY THE SECRET KNOWLEDGE HANDED DOWN BY MY FORBEARS! IN MY MIND'S EYE I SEE THE FACE OF THE ENEMY WHO HAS WRONGED US, AND THE POWER OF MY THOUGHTS WINGS TOWARD HIM...



AS SLOAN WATCHED, THE FOG OF ILLUSION ENTERED HIS MIND, AND...

IT--IT'S ALMOST AS IF IT'S MOVING--LOOKING AT ME! WHY CAN'T I... THINK STRAIGHT--?



SUDDENLY IT WAS AS IF HE WERE BACK IN THE JUNGLE... CRINGING BEFORE THE PEOPLE HE HAD WRONGED...



OUTSIDE, THE HOTEL DETECTIVE WAS MAKING HIS ROUNDS...

OH-OH... SOUNDS LIKE TROUBLE!



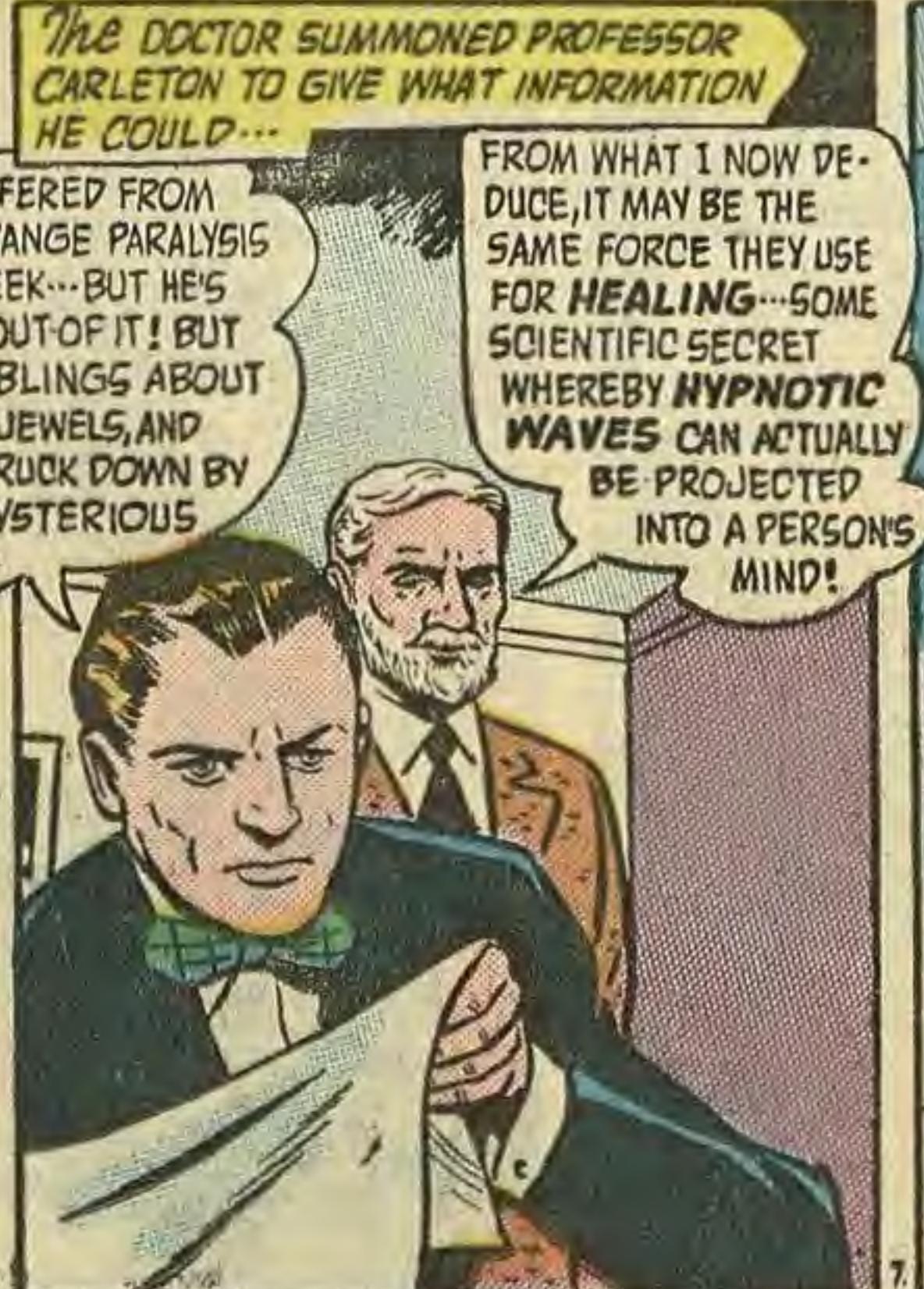
IT TOOK A FEW SECONDS TO BREAK DOWN THE DOOR, AND ONCE INSIDE...

HE'S... UNCONSCIOUS! BETTER GET A DOCTOR!



The DOCTOR SUMMONED PROFESSOR CARLETON TO GIVE WHAT INFORMATION HE COULD...

HE'S SUFFERED FROM THIS STRANGE PARALYSIS FOR A WEEK... BUT HE'S COMING OUT OF IT! BUT HIS BABBLINGS ABOUT DRAHILI JEWELS, AND BEING STRUCK DOWN BY SOME MYSTERIOUS FORCE...



FROM WHAT I NOW DE-
DUCE, IT MAY BE THE
SAME FORCE THEY USE
FOR HEALING... SOME
SCIENTIFIC SECRET
WHEREBY HYPNOTIC
WAVES CAN ACTUALLY
BE PROJECTED
INTO A PERSON'S
MIND!

YES, SLOAN RECOVERED... AND HIS FIRST ACT WAS TO...

WELL, HERE GO THOSE JEWELS... TO A CONGO TRADER WHO'LL GET 'EM BACK TO THE DRAHILI! THERE ARE FUNNY THINGS IN THIS WORLD OF OURS... AND I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON!



The END

Vera, MY DARK STAR!

THE STAR...
SHE'S SHINING
...SO BRIGHTLY!
WH-WHAT'S SHE
UP TO NOW?

R-ROAR!

LOOK!
IT'S A ---
TIDAL
WAVE!

LONG BEFORE THE DAWN OF CIVILIZATION, EARLY MAN WAS PEERING INTO THE DARK MYSTERIES OF THE HEAVENS--AND WONDERING: DID THE VAST, WHIRLING CONSTELLATIONS CONTROL HIS FATE? COULD DESTINY BE READ IN THE STRANGE MOVEMENTS OF THE BURNING STARS? MODERN MAN STILL WONDERS---AND BROODS---AND SOMETIMES, FEELS THE HAND OF FEAR...

The RESIDENCE OF DR. ALONZO SPADE, THE NOTED ASTROLOGIST...

I FEEL LIKE AN IDIOT COMING HERE! AN ASTROLOGIST CAN'T POSSIBLY HELP ME...AND YET...

AND YET YOU ARE HERE! COME, COME, MR. FOSTER ... WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

WELL...IT HAPPENS THAT THIS IS MY BIRTHDAY ---AND I'VE ALWAYS HAD VERY BAD LUCK ON MY BIRTHDAYS! FRANKLY, I'M SCARED!

I SEE...GO ON!

"I WAS BORN ON AUGUST 29TH, 1926," SAID ROBERT FOSTER, "ON A MOUNTAIN TOP FARM! I WAS ONLY A FEW MINUTES OLD WHEN..."



"I HEARD MUCH ABOUT THAT WEIRD, COLD-BLUE RADIANCE WHILE GROWING UP---AND THEN, ON MY FIFTH BIRTHDAY, WHILE HUNTING FOR BIRDS' NESTS ON A CLIFF OVERLOOKING A LAKE..."



"IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ALL OVER FOR ME THEN, HAD NOT A FISHERMAN HAPPENED TO BE JUST AT THE SPOT..."



"SO IT SEEMED THAT MY BIRTHDAY HAD ONLY BROUGHT ME BAD LUCK---WHICH WAS ALMOST FATAL! SEVERAL YEARS LATER, WHILE WE WERE USING CANDLES AT HOME BECAUSE OF POWER FAILURE..."



"THE OLD HOUSE WAS A MASS OF FLAME WITHIN A MATTER OF MOMENTS ---WE WERE LUCKY TO ESCAPE WITH OUR LIVES..."



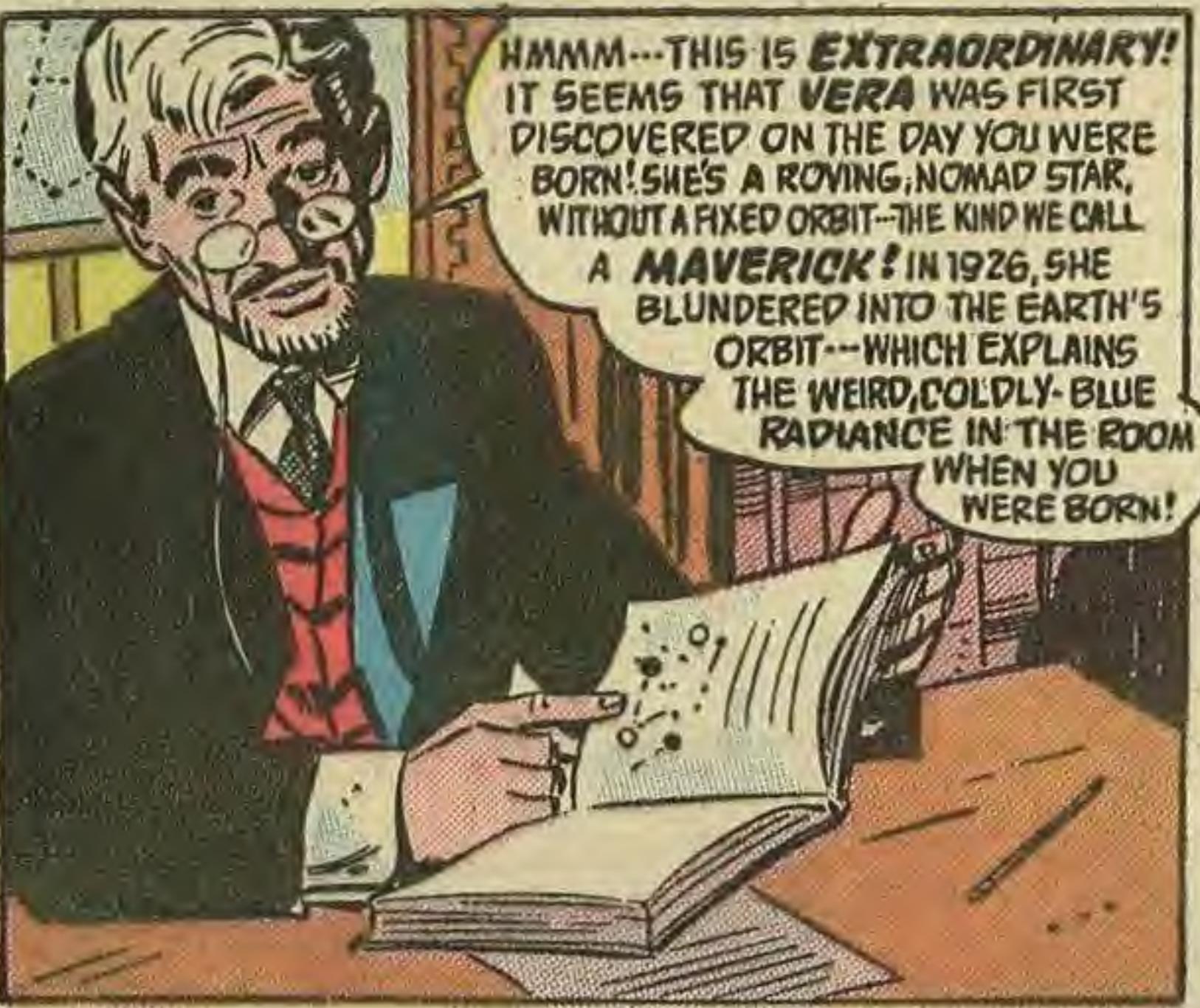
AND THEN THERE WAS AUGUST 29TH, 1948---WHEN I WAS NEARLY KILLED IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT! I'VE BECOME SUPERSTITIOUS ABOUT IT---AND SOME OF MY FRIENDS ADVISED ME TO SEE YOU---AN' ASTROLOGER!



THAT'S RIGHT!
I CAN'T SHAKE THE
FEELING THAT SOMETHING TERRIBLE IS
BOUND TO OVERTAKE ME!

YOU WERE BORN UNDER
THE SIGN OF VERA, A
BALEFUL, DARK STAR...
BUT LET'S SEE WHAT
ELSE WE CAN FIND OUT!





HE COULD HARDLY WAIT TO GET AWAY...

BUT I THINK WE SHOULD INVESTIGATE ALL THIS! THE CASE IS HIGHLY INTERESTING!

SORRY, BUT I'VE HAD ENOUGH! THANKS FOR YOUR TIME!

A YEAR PASSED, AND DR. SPADE HEARD NO MORE OF HIM! ONE DAY HE READ IN AN ASTRONOMICAL JOURNAL THAT THE STAR VERA WAS ACTING UP AGAIN... THAT ON AUGUST 29TH IT WOULD APPROACH NEARER TO THE EARTH THAN EVER BEFORE...

WONDER WHAT BECAME OF THAT FOSTER CHAP? I'M CONVINCED THERE'S MORE IN STORE FOR HIM... AND I'D LIKE TO OBSERVE THE EVENT!

CURIOS AS TO WHETHER HIS SPECULATIONS WOULD PROVE CORRECT, DR. SPADE MADE SURE TO CALL ON ROBERT WHEN AUGUST 29TH ROLLED AROUND! AT THE LATTER'S BEACHSIDE COTTAGE...

PERHAPS... AND PERHAPS NOT! STRANGE, THE LIGHT IN THE ROOM SEEMS TO BE CHANGING!

IN AN INSTANT, AN ODD, COLDLY-BLUE LIGHT HAD SUFFUSED THE ROOM... BATHING THEM IN ITS WEIRD COLOR...

WH-WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S HAPPENING?

IT'S VERA! HERE SHE COMES!

THEY RUSHED OUTSIDE TO WITNESS A DAZZLING SIGHT...

SO WHAT IF IT IS HER? HOW CAN SHE HURT ME?

GOOD HEAVENS! LOOK AT WHAT'S ROLLING IN FROM THE SEA!

A...A TIDAL WAVE!

DON'T JUST STAND THERE! RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!

TONS OF WATER SWEPT IRRESISTIBLY OVER THE BEACH... BARE MOMENTS AFTER THE TWO MEN HAD DASHED TO SAFETY!

CRASH!

WHEN THE MIGHTY WAVE HAD SPENT ITSELF...

ONLY YOUR HOUSE WAS DESTROYED... THE OTHERS ARE UNTOUCHED! IT'S AS IF VERA WERE SINGLING YOU OUT!

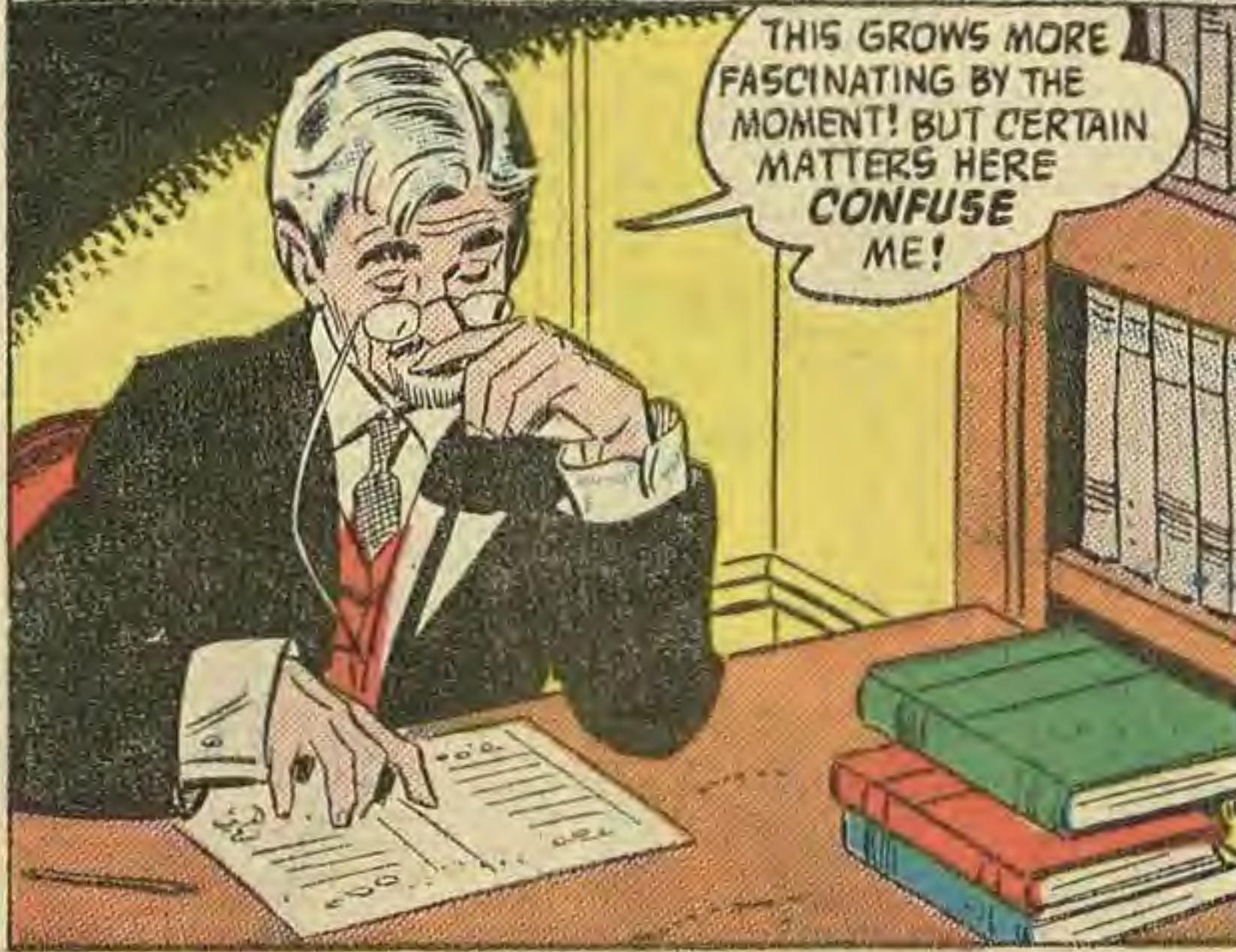
BUT... HOW COULD A STAR CAUSE A TIDAL WAVE?

VERA CAME SO CLOSE
TO THE EARTH THAT SHE
AFFECTED THE TIDES...
THE WAY THE MOON
DOES? DO YOU
STILL SCOFF?

N-NO--NOW I'M
CONVINCED! DR.
SPADE, I WANT YOU
TO DRAW UP MY
HOROSCOPE...
SO I'LL HAVE A
GENERAL IDEA OF
WHAT TO
EXPECT!

FOR WEEKS, IN ALL HIS SPARE TIME, DR. ALONZO SPADE BROUGHT
ALL HIS VAST ASTROLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE TO BEAR ON THE SUBJECT...

THIS GROWS MORE
FASCINATING BY THE
MOMENT! BUT CERTAIN
MATTERS HERE
CONFUSE
ME!



THE HOROSCOPE INDICATES THAT THE
STAR'S BALEFUL INFLUENCE WILL
LAST EVEN BEYOND ITS
DESTRUCTION! WHAT
DOES THIS MEAN?
WHAT 'DESTRUCTION'
IS HINTED AT?

I WISH
I KNEW!

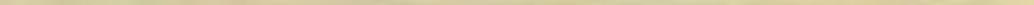
SHORTLY AFTERWARD THE MYSTERY
WAS DISPELLED! ROBERT WAS ALONE
AT HOME WHEN...

WE INTERRUPT TO BRING YOU
A SPECIAL NEWS BULLETIN!
UNIVERSITY ASTRONOMERS
HAVE JUST ANNOUNCED AN
IMMINENT COLLISION IN THE
HEAVENS BETWEEN THE STAR
VERA AND A HUGE METEOR!
THE CATASTROPHE IS SCHEDULED
TO TAKE PLACE SHORTLY AFTER
TEN TONIGHT...

HALLELUJAH!

AT THE APPOINTED TIME, ROBERT FOSTER
STOOD ON HIS ROOFTOP, FIELDGLASSES
IN HAND, WAITING ENTHUSIASTICALLY...

YAHOOO!
LET 'ER
RIP!



TWO MIGHTY ASTRAL BODIES, ROARING AT
EACH OTHER WITH BLINDING SPEED...
GIVING THE KEENEST PLEASURE TO A
SINGLE HUMAN BEING...



NEXT MOMENT...

BARR-ROOOM!

IT'S ALL OVER! VERA IS DESTROYED! SHE CAN'T HAUNT ME ANY MORE!



YES, HE WAS AT LEAST FREE OF THE EVIL CURSE WHICH HAD PURSUED HIM! BUT IN HIS HAPPINESS, HE HAD FORGOTTEN THE PORTION OF HIS HOROSCOPE WHICH STATED THAT THE STAR'S SINISTER INFLUENCE WOULD LAST EVEN BEYOND ITS DESTRUCTION! ON HIS NEXT BIRTHDAY...

THIS IS GOING TO BE THE BIGGEST BLOWOUT THIS TOWN EVER SAW!



HE HAD CHOSEN TO CELEBRATE WITH A GROUP OF FRIENDS, INCLUDING DR. ALONZO SPADE, WHO WAS CURIOUS TO SEE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN...

HE'S CONVINCED THAT NOTHING CAN HAPPEN TO HIM NOW...BUT I WONDER!

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I PROPOSE A TOAST TO MYSELF! YOU'RE LOOKING AT A FREE MAN!



NO ONE HEARD THE FAINT HISS OUTSIDE...

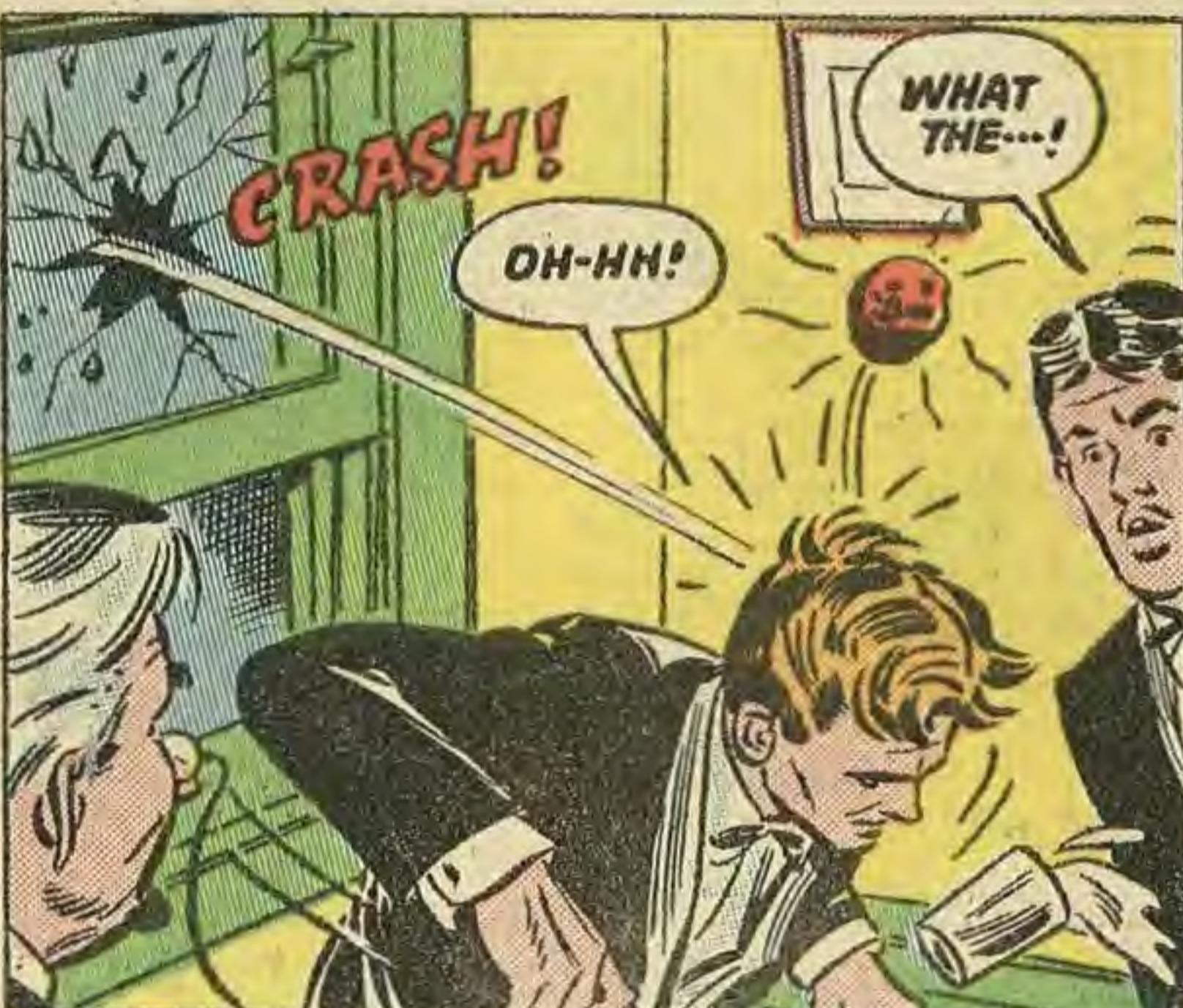
FOR HE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW



CRASH!

OH-HH!

WHAT THE...!



IT'S TOO HOT TO TOUCH YET! IT HAPPENS TO BE A HEAVENLY OBJECT...AND I THINK I KNOW EXACTLY WHERE IT CAME FROM!

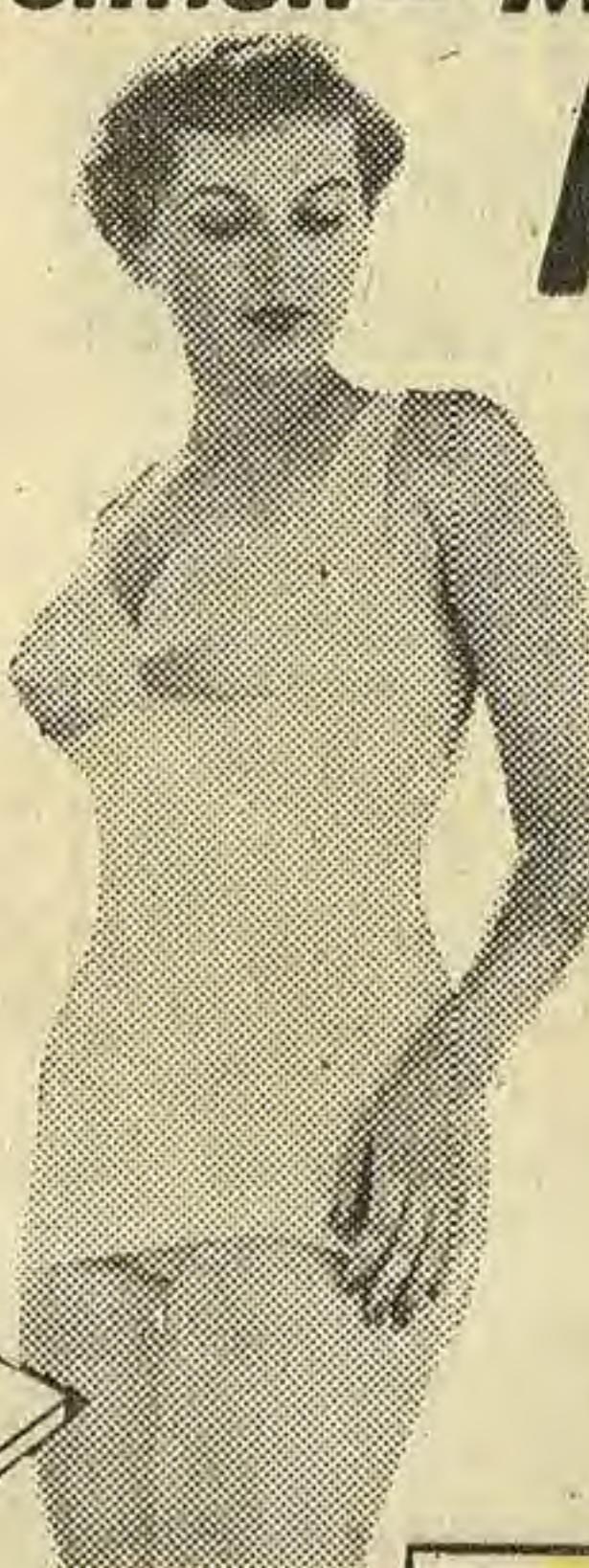




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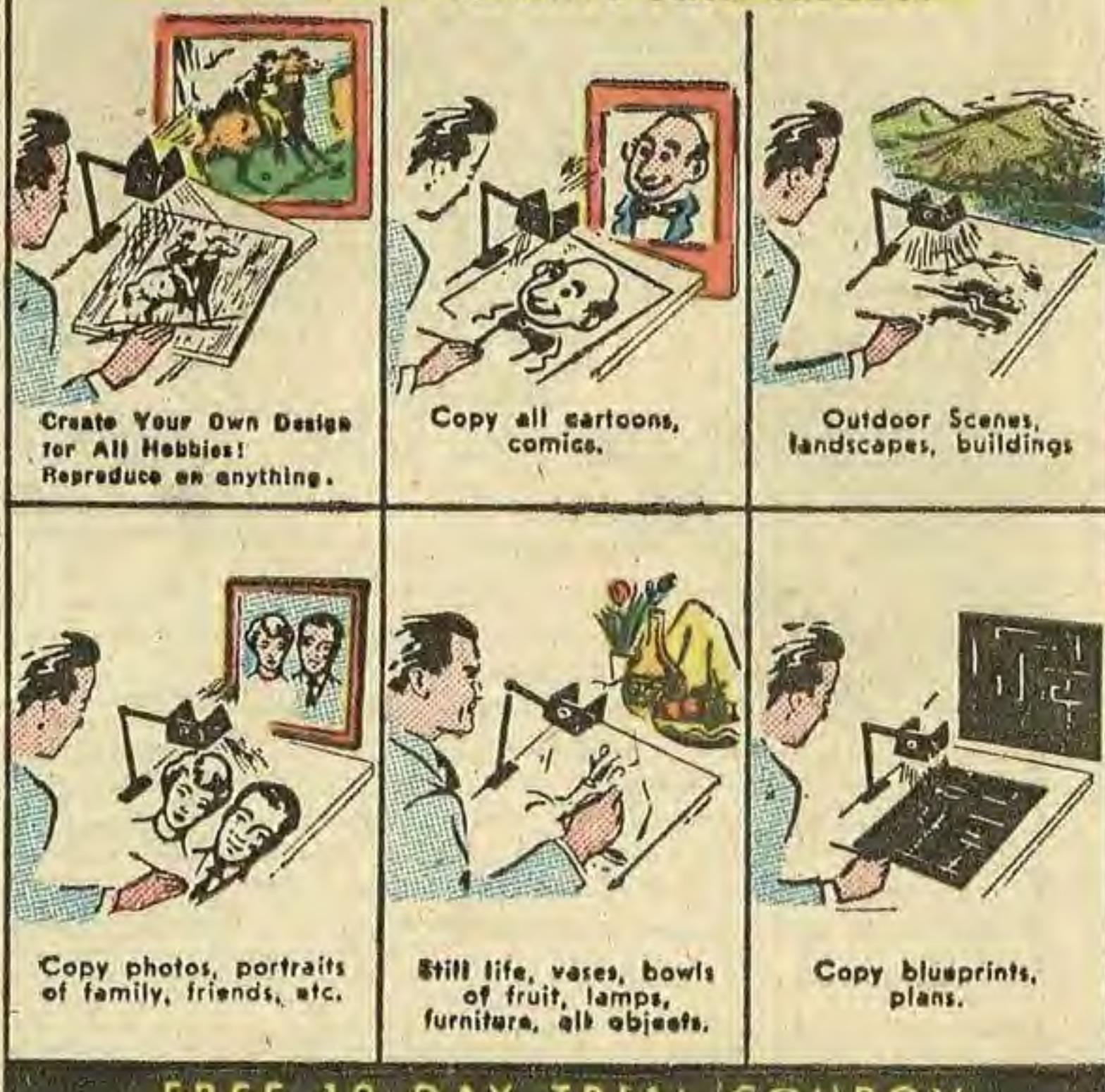
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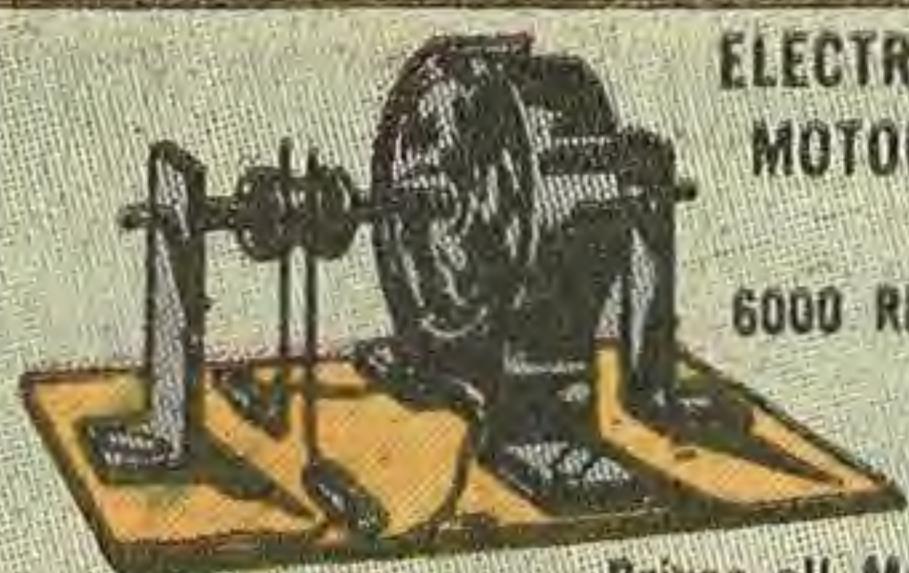
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50¢

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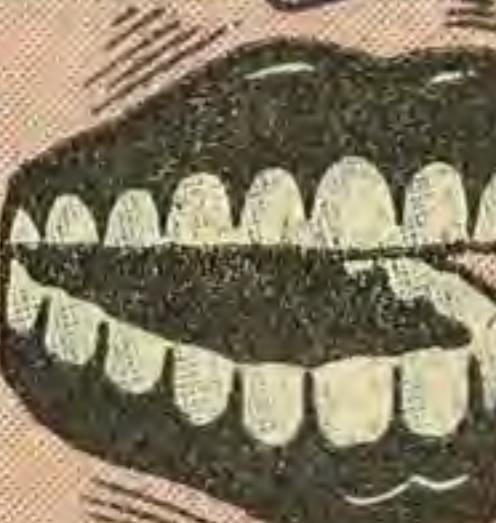


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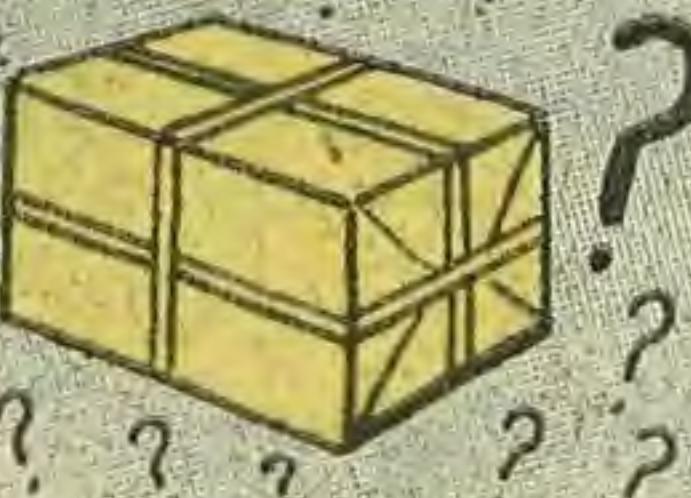
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